

سكنا من الامل



Monday November 18 1996
Abu Dhabi D 8.50
Algeria L 5.20
Andorra FF 10
Australia AS 30
Austria S 30
Belgium BF 45
Canada C 5.95
Czechia CZ 1.00
Denmark DK 15
Ecuador EC 1.50
Finland FM 12
France FF 10
Germany DM 3.90
Greece D 400
Hong Kong HK 25
Hungary F 200
Iceland IS 90
India IN 1.00
Italy L 1.00
Japan Y 1.25
Korea K 150
Kuwait KD 0.50
Latvia LV 200
Lithuania LT 200
Luxembourg LF 95
Malta M 0.45
Netherlands G 4.00
New Zealand NZ 1.20
Norway NK 110
Oman OR 1.20
Pakistan R 80
Poland Z 8.20
Portugal P 200
Romania RO 1.00
Russia R 2.00
Saudi Arabia SR 10
Singapore S 1.20
Spain P 200
Sweden S 1.20
Switzerland SF 3.20
Taiwan TD 1.20
Thailand B 80
Turkey TL 125.000
USA US 2.00
USSR R 1.75

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL
NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
46,713

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Matthew Engel watches Israel turn into Iran
Madness in the Promised Land
G2 with European weather

Media
Whatever happened to the 600,000 today readers?

Sport
Emerson returns but Derby add to Robson's Teesside problems
This section, page 16

Sceptics hail Blair plan for euro vote

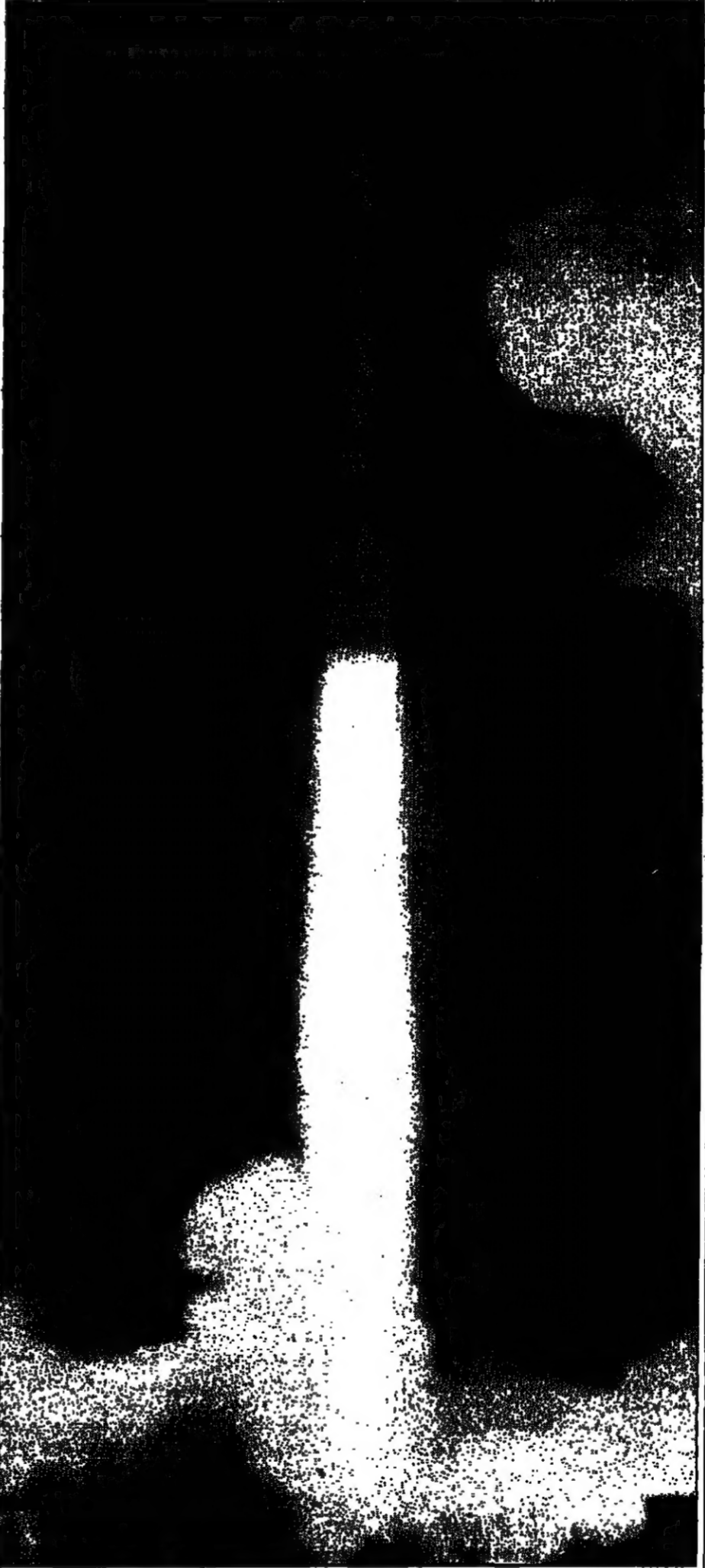
Michael White Political Editor
THE Labour leadership's decision to promise a referendum if a Blair government decides that Britain should join a single European currency was hailed as a significant victory by Eurosceptics in both main parties last night - despite Gordon Brown's insistence that it could still put sterling in the "first wave" in 1999.
With Tory Euro-sceptics eager to use Labour's shift to push John Major further down the anti-EU path, the federalist European Movement predicted that a referendum could be held - and won by the pro-Europeans - in two years time, if Tony Blair's team is satisfied that the Franco-German "euro" will help Britain economically.
The shadow chancellor said yesterday - after last week reaching agreement with the Big Three, Mr Blair, deputy leader John Prescott and shadow Foreign Secretary Robin Cook: "It is clear that we support, and see substantial benefits in, a single currency. But we've always said the decision has got to be made in the national economic interests at the time."
Mr Blair did not tell President Chirac in Paris on Friday.
"it is precisely because of that I am saying today that it will be necessary to consult opinion during the next Parliament through a referendum if we made a decision to go ahead," Mr Brown told BBC's Breakfast with Frost.
That amounted to a heavy hint that, despite fears that a mishandled single currency could cause deflation or worse, Chancellor Brown could still win the argument in cabinet when "first wave" decisions are taken in 1998. Warier colleagues agree, but think it unlikely.
Labour Euro-sceptics such as the former cabinet veteran, Peter Shore, last night pre-



Where they stand
CONSERVATIVES: Under pressure from his Euro-sceptics, John Major promised a referendum if a Tory government decided to join a single currency during the next parliament. 1997-2002. Ken Clarke almost resigned.
LABOUR: Almost identical since this weekend. Before that, Labour promised to consult the people "through a referendum or a general election" if a Blair cabinet decided to join in monna unique. Labour insists that entering in the first wave in 1999 remains a real option. The issue is economic, not constitutional.
LIB DEMS: Have always favoured a referendum on constitutional principle and favour joining as soon as possible.
dicted the opposite outcome.
"I do not think it would now be possible for a Labour government to join a single currency in the first rush, on January 1 1999. They would first have to pass at least three acts of parliament," including the Euro-referendum bill and one to make the Bank of England independent, said Mr Shore.

Tory counterparts like Sir Michael Spicer also welcomed Labour's shift which was not discussed beforehand in the full shadow cabinet - despite the leadership's decision not to allow anti-EU members to campaign for a No, as seven did in the 1975 referendum.
Some shadow ministers were angry last night, but Blair allies expect no trouble.
Mr Major may not be so lucky. Sir Michael urged the cabinet to up the stakes.
"I would certainly like us to make it absolutely clear that we would not join the single currency in the lifetime of the next Government," he said.
"The electorate would like it as well. If this action by the Labour party pushes us in that direction, that would be a very good thing electorally," he said.
Liberal Democrat spokesman Charles Kennedy accused Labour of being "in the same position as the Conservatives".
He said: "Both favour a referendum more for reasons of internal party division and neither will make clear before the general election if they favour British participation subject to the convergence criteria being met."
Mr Brown countered: "I wouldn't say our policies are identical at all. The Conservatives are presenting themselves as an anti-European party. We are a pro-European party. The Conservatives can't tell you whether they support the principle of a single currency," he said.
It was now clear that no decisions would be taken at next month's EU summit in Dublin, making it certain they can only come after Blair's election, Mr Brown explained.
Having previously said voters would be consulted by an election or a referendum he accepted that the latter - using a "neutral question" - was "the appropriate way of securing consent".
The Labour decision reflects the shadow chancellor's turn to page 2, column 1
Leader comment, page 8

Lost in space



Mars '96 takes off from Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The £40 million star of the Russian space programme failed while in orbit and is now doomed. Story, page 2

Italy blows a hole in 'fortress Europe'

John Hooper in Rome
IN A MOVE that will dismay and exasperate its partners in the European Union, Italy's government has allowed to lapse the only legal instrument it possessed which permitted it to deport illegal immigrants.
For at least the next three months, Third World migrants will be able to get into the EU through Italy, confident that the most they risk is an unenforceable expulsion order.
The centre-left government's failure to act in time has outraged opposition politicians. In an apparent threat of vigilante action, the separatist Northern League said its volunteer "national guards" were ready to "guarantee order and security".
The deportation of illegal immigrants had been regulated by a decree which was issued last year at the Northern League's insistence. Its expiry is the most notable outcome so far of a recent court decision that threatens to make the country progressively more ungovernable.
Since the Italian parliament is unable to pass laws at a rate which meets public demand, successive governments resorted to rolling over decrees. However, the constitution states that decrees ought to be issued only in cases of emergency and for a duration of six months. Last month, Italy's highest court ruled that this had to stop.
The most recent version of the decree on immigration lapsed at midnight last Friday. The government has yet to table a bill to replace it.
On Saturday, police stations around Italy received a circular from the chief of police, Fernando Masono, putting a stop to deportations for a minimum of three months. About 5,000 illegal immigrants served with expulsion orders under the provisions

of the old decree will be able to stay in Italy as a result.
Maurizio Gasparri of the far-right National Alliance railed that he was expecting a "similar circular from the minister for families authorising paedophiles to rape children and one from the minister of justice allowing robbers to empty banks".
However, the situation also has drawbacks for Italy's immigrant community. Under pressure from the left, the decree was expanded to include provisions whereby illegal immigrants who could prove they had a job could regularise their situation.
As a result of its expiry, about 200,000 people who had provisionally been granted permission to remain in the country now find themselves in legal limbo.
Chief Masono's orders said "new instances" of illegal immigration would need to be dealt with by expulsion. But the only instrument left to the police merely allows them to serve an expulsion order on an immigrant, who is then free to leave the police station.
Many opt to go to another EU nation after their first brush with the police. This is what is likely to cause most anger in the EU - that Italy has allowed itself to become a gaping hole in "fortress Europe".
Its inability to maintain effective frontiers has already led to its being excluded from the arrangements allowing free movement across the Schengen group of EU countries co-operating on law-and-order issues.
A Home Office spokeswoman said that Britain would be able to send back any immigrants who attempted to move to this country via Italy.
"We have full and fair immigration laws and have retained all our frontier controls so there will be no real knock-on effect for this country."

As Chancellor Helmut Kohl pushes the most successful German state towards European integration, the single currency project is severely straining the country's economic and social fabric. In a week-long series, Martin Woolcott and Ian Traynor examine Germany's crisis, including the huge costs of unification and the effects of globalisation on German prosperity.
In today's Guardian
Fame and infamy 3
Troubled times 6
Leader comment 8
Professor John Gray's Commentary 9

Bats hang on to their sectarian beliefs

David Starrock Ireland Correspondent
FOR anybody who has ever been moved by despair to write off Ireland's ugly and age-old Catholic versus Protestant sectarianism as plain batty it will come as a heavy blow to hear that the bats are just as bad.
A nationwide study of Irish bats has uncovered a bizarre nesting pattern involving Catholic and Protestant churches. Two bat species enjoy living in churches - but have strong preferences in keeping with the traditional divide.

Long-eared bats swerve towards Catholic churches while Natterer's bats have a traditional route which leads them to Church of Ireland places of worship. Dr Kate McAney, the only full-time chiropterologist in Ireland, has observed the phenomenon at first hand.
"There are peculiar traits to all seven bat species if you take the time to look at their lifestyles," Dr McAney said.
"To my knowledge three species have been found in churches: the pipistrelle, long-eared and Natterer's bat. However, there does appear to be some selection by long-eared and Nat-

terer's bats as to which type of church they choose to live in.
"Long-eareds spend much of their time sleeping in the gap that exists between the timber ceiling and slate roofs of Catholic churches, whereas Natterer's like the open loft spaces of Church of Ireland churches."
Dr McAney believes that this apparent sectarianism has nothing to do with the Ascendancy or which wing you hit first upon take-off. The explanation is more prosaic. Long-eared bats prefer to live close to timber while Natterer's like open spaces with access to stone work.

All the field work, which began in 1985 and is continuing, has been carried out in the Irish republic, so northerners given to conspiracy theories might also take note that, like their human equivalents, the Catholic chapel-loving, long-eared bat is plentiful in numbers while the Protestant Natterer's is rare in the south.
"With so many myths and superstitions already surrounding bats, it is best not to add this one to the list when there is a logical explanation but I find that members of the clergy think this situation quite amusing," said Dr McAney.

CENTRAL AFRICA URGENT APPEAL FOR AID



More than a million people are fleeing the fighting in Zaïre. Without urgent help, thousands of innocent victims could die.
Clean water, food, medical supplies and shelter are desperately needed. Red Cross workers are well placed to provide this aid as soon as it arrives. Please phone now to give as much as you can. Just £25 could feed 35 refugees for one week.
Please call now with your credit card donation.
0345 315 315
QUOTING REFERENCE 3435
Or you can send a cheque or postal order with the coupon below.
British Red Cross
Caring for people in crisis
Registered Charity No. 229948
I enclose a cheque/postal order (payable to British Red Cross) for
£250* £50 £35 £25 Other £
Or please debit my Visa/Mastercard/Amex/Diners Club/Switch Card
No. _____ Expiry Date / /
Today's date _____ Signature _____
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Tel. _____
Now please send this coupon with your donation, to:
New Centre for Central Africa Appeal, 100, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF.
*A donation of £250 or more is worth a third as much again through Gift Aid as we can reclaim the tax. Please ensure you complete your address details.
Please tick this box if you do not want to receive further information on the Red Cross
 Tick this box if you would like a receipt.
S46G1811/86

Inside
The East's...
2

Britain
The East's...
2

World News
The East's...
2

Finance
The East's...
11

Sport
The East's...
15

Comment and Letters 6;
Obituaries 10
G2
Crossword 15; Weather 16;
Radio 16; TV 16.
770261 307316

Leading them into triumphal temptation

'An offence in the nostrils of God?' The Church is split from pulpit to steeple over homosexuality - witness the weekend celebration at Southwark Cathedral

Monday sketch



Madeleine Bunting

FOR months, Reform, the conservative evangelical group, had been whipping up Anglicans over Southwark Cathedral's decision to host the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement. It was nothing less than a "festival of gay sex", a modern-day Sodom and Gomorrah. Their main charge was that a book was to be sold: *The A-Z of Gay Sex*.

The bookstalls at yesterday's event had many worthy tomes on feminist liturgy — *The Divine Feminine*, *A Christian Sexual Theology*. The raciest was the intriguing *Sex With God*. But of the *A-Z*, with its details of tagging, cruising and "all manner of unchristian, depraved sexual acts", there was no sight. But Reform's propaganda

blitz had had an effect. One cathedral dignitary said on Saturday when asked the way: "There's no sign, but there's probably a sea of condoms down there by now."

There were no condoms, only a lot of earnest and angry men — and a few women — discussing such subjects as "What can the World Council of Churches contribute constructively to the situation of lesbian and gay people in Zimbabwe?" and "The Sexual Spirituality of AIDS."

Then came the highlight of the conference, the harp of the Rt Rev Walter Righter, retired Bishop of Iowa, whose trial for heresy for having knowingly ordained a practising homosexual collapsed earlier this year.

"Could communal sex be a valid Christian sex ethic? Is gay experience of sexuality so different that we shouldn't even be aiming at monogamy?" Bishop Righter was asked.

"Do you see a future for marriage when the majority of heterosexuals are no longer interested? Are gays chasing something that the straight community has abandoned?"

Bishop Righter ducked and weaved. He said we needed a "paradigm shift" on our culture's reluctance to waste the male seed. This was at the

heart of homophobia — just look at all those Biblical verses on castration — and it even explained the opposition to abortion. All personal, sexual relationships had to be reviewed because the Christian code was clearly now "unworkable."

Walter had brought along his wife, Nancy, who ended his marital war. Admitting that they had three divorces between them, Nancy added: "Wait and I hold hands all the time. I believe God wants us together; the biggest joy and most intense satisfaction comes from this relationship and I want that for all of you."

But the audience loved them for their attempts to grapple with bisexuality and ordination of gay HIV positive men, their admission of the shortcomings of heterosexual marriage, their delight that gay teenagers could now explore their sexuality on the Internet, and their horror at homophobic Britain.

"You are the prophets, you are calling the church to account. Keep the heat on," the bishop said.

The tone of the Southwark Cathedral service in the evening was altogether more sober. It was the Church of England doing what it does so well, providing pomp and circumstance for national occasions; the procession of cath-



Priests pass under a campaign banner during the service

edral officials swept past in billowing cotton gowns; the brass chandeliers glittered under the glare of television lights.

One kept having to pinch oneself that all this ceremony was to celebrate lesbian and gay sexuality — as illustrated in the march of banners from local lesbian and gay Christian groups. However gentle

what it boiled down to was, hell, I don't know what any of this is about.

Gays and lesbians believe their "journey" is analogous to Jews' Exodus from Egypt. Choice examples of Christian "honesty" and "dialogue" was going on outside. A woman, handbag in one hand, banner in the other, was shriek-

ing: "Homosexuality is an offence in the nostrils of God!"

A softly spoken man with a French accent asked: "Are you in touch with your feelings? Do you love?"

"Of course I love, I'm married. You're unnatural. A man should be with a woman. It's an abomination."

"But I feel love for my partner."

"God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah and nothing has grown on the site to this day. I pray that God will open your eyes."

"I only know that being gay comes from God."

"Gay was a lovely word which has been taken out of context. You're not gay, you're a sodomite," she half-shrieked.

There were more hecklers as the 2,000 strong congregation queued up to get into the cathedral with banners such as "Dunblane demands a total ban on sodomy" and "The wages of sin is death."

Given that a kind of "dialogue" it's not surprising that many in the congregation did not want to give their names, and only a handful of the clerics were wearing dog collars.

John Harris — not his real name — is HIV positive. Although a Christian, he has long since given up going to church, so Saturday was a rare event for him: "Most gay

Humiliation for Russians as £40m mission to Mars ends in disaster

Fireball takes with it hopes of the space programme

David Hearst in Moscow and Tim Radford

THE star of the Russian space exploration programme, a \$64 million (£40 million) orbiter packed with equipment to probe Mars, was this morning circling the Earth in the first stages of a slow, ignominious end as a fireball in the upper atmosphere.

A booster rocket failed shortly after take-off on Saturday from Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. With it went the hopes of the Russian space programme. Controllers feared the worst when the Mars probe was 12 minutes late emerging from the "shadow zone", when the craft is out of contact. Russia's space communication centre in the Crimea had contact with Mars '96 for three further minutes before the mission was pronounced doomed.

"The specialists are still working... but it's probably too late," said Vladimir Ananyev, a spokesman for the Russian Space Agency.

The disaster represents major humiliation. But the Russians are not alone. American NASA scientists watched in horror earlier this decade as a Mars Observer satellite completed the journey and then disappeared. European and British scientists earlier this year saw a \$500 million four-satellite research mission explode, with a European prototype super-rocket on its first launch.

But the Russian failure is a double blow. Mars '96 was the first new Russian spacecraft in a decade. It was two years behind schedule and the mission had no back-up craft. All the effort of the space programme had gone into the

manned Mir station. It will also knock international confidence in the rockets which Russia had hoped to use to capture a slice of the lucrative commercial satellite launch market.

Above all it was a mission to Mars, the focus of Russian dreams since the 60s. The former Cold War race had become an international partnership to send, within one month, three spacecraft to Mars to probe for possible life. The Russian orbiter carried more than a ton of equipment from Europe and the US. It was an ambitious project conceived in government chaos. There was no money from the federal budget. The booster rockets were only supplied after pressure from partner countries. And all the Russians have to show for it is a spacecraft likely to fall into the Earth's envelope in flames which will consume all the rest of the mission. The mission to Mars will go on. NASA launched a Martian orbiter on November 6, and on December 2 will launch the Mars Pathfinder, carrying a lander and a robot rover. Thereafter the Americans and their partners will send pairs of spacecraft to Mars every 26 months until 2005. In preparation for a later possible manned mission.

Judges urge drastic cuts in rates of pay as some QCs claim up to £2,000 a day in civil and family cases

Barristers fight fixed-fee proposals

'These proposals are unworkable, profoundly unfair and will not produce greater access to justice. Practitioners of any seniority or experience will be driven out of civil legal aid work altogether. It will be uneconomic.'



David Penry-Davey QC (right), chairman of the Bar Council

David Penry-Davey QC (right), chairman of the Bar Council

He who laughs last...

Review

Lyn Gardner

All Things Considered Stephen Joseph Theatre Scarborough

DAVID Freeman, approaching his 60th birthday, is Professor of Philosophy at an Oxbridge college. His beloved mother died two months ago, he has no dependants or attachments and his book, the culmination of his life's work, has just been published. So he decides to kill himself, taking Nietzsche's view "that few people die too early and most die too late — the trick is to die at the right time."

"Once I've decided on a rational course of action I pursue it," declares Freeman, who has planned his exit carefully. What he doesn't reckon on are the irrationalities of others who, on the big day, turn his well-ordered death into a farce.

"How's life?" inquires self-obsessed English lecturer Ronnie who thinks sleeping

with students is one of the perks of the job. Ronnie interrupts David's suicide by asking for help in sorting out his sordid love life.

There are interventions too from an American academic, Holly, attending a symposium on medical ethics, who believes in capital punishment on the grounds that serial killers can be turned into serial life savers if the organs are used after death. "Let me play Plato to your Socrates," she begs the suicidal David. There are others too: the busybody chaplain who believes that David's suicide would set a bad example to the students, encouraging a spate of copycat killings; the pushy, insensitive journalist, Joanna Smart, intent on dishing the dirt revealed in David's ex-wife's autobiography; and the college electrician who, most fatally for David's plans, has come to rewire his flat.

Ben Brown, a former Guardian student critic, has written a philosophical comedy of manners which is so accomplished that it is hard to credit that this is his first full-length play. Like a cross between Gray's *Butley* and Stoppard's *Jumpers*, with a

dash of Feynman thrown in, *All Things Considered* wittily wrings the laughter from the greatest philosophical joke of all — death.

You may question why one so young would choose to write in such an old-fashioned form, but never for a moment doubt his command of it.

What Brown has not yet learned is to allow the jokes to serve the character rather than the other way round. The sharpness of the humour doesn't entirely disguise the cold heart of a play. Even Christopher Godwin's delicate, beautifully understated performance as David can't persuade you to actually care for the man or feel touched by his fate. There is very little pain in the laughter. It seldom cuts you to the quick, except all too briefly in the moose librarian Margaret's realisation that a missed period signifies not a longed-for pregnancy but the onset of the menopause and the death of hope.

Alan Strachan's production is so smart and polished as the play. And despite some of the thinness of the characterisation, it is acted in fine style by an excellent cast.

Child care cases or complicated divorce cases put in claims for £1,500 or £2,000 per day. Claims for brief fees — for case preparation and the first day of trial — can be as high as \$30,000 or \$35,000 per QC in a large child abuse case.

This contrasts with the Lord Chancellor's proposal of a \$5,500 brief fee for cases lasting 11-30 days.

David Penry-Davey QC, chairman of the Bar Council, said: "These proposals are unworkable, profoundly unfair and will not produce greater access to justice."

"Practitioners of any seniority or experience will be driven out of civil legal aid work altogether. It will be uneconomic."

Judges at all levels, from district judge to law lord, have voiced growing concerns about the high fees claimed by some barristers in civil legal aid cases. Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, warned the Bar's annual conference last year that barristers risked "killing the golden goose".

One district judge, who asked not to be named, said: "One of the things we are very concerned about is the heavy train, particularly in children cases. Exorbitant

fees are charged by counsel, which are regularly taxed down."

He cited a recent case of trespass to land in which the High Court gave judgment for \$75,000. A QC charged a brief fee of \$35,000, which was reduced to \$12,500.

In another case, where judgment was given for \$50,000, he said: "I was amazed to see fees of \$6,000 each for two or three consultations with leading counsel. When I looked to see the time the solicitor had taken, it was a consultation of two hours."

"I asked the clerk for details of counsel's reading time, but he was unable to supply them." The \$6,000 was reduced to \$1,500.

The judge added: "This is a regular complaint among district judges up and down the country. If no element of legal aid is involved, it doesn't matter in a sense because if the solicitor and client have agreed those fees with counsel, they're stuck with them. It's a lot more worrying where legal aid is involved."

"It's a regular subject of conversation among district judges as to whether we ought to report some barristers to the Bar Council, but I suspect the Bar Council wouldn't be interested."

ANYBODY. WE DON'T WANT YOU.

Being an Officer in the TA isn't for everybody. So most of you can stop reading now. We want the best.

Only the best can take the pressure, give credit where it's due, set high standards and live by them. Only the best can have men look up to them but look down on no-one.

Only the best get Army rates of pay. Anybody still with us? Then you're somebody we'd like to talk to.

Equipping yourself does not place you under any obligation. For more information about becoming a TA Officer, post the coupon to: The Territorial Army, Freepost 4335, Bristol BS1 3YX or phone 0249 20111 quoting ref 9871.

NAME: _____ INITIAL: _____

SURNAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____ AGE (17-30): _____

TEL: _____

The TA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. <http://www.army.mod.uk>

Sceptics hail euro vote plan

continued from page 1

lector's acceptance of the election campaign logic, that leaving such a fundamental decision to beyond election day, probably May 1 1997, without a firm referendum pledge in its manifesto would be asking for trouble.

Jan Trajan writes from Bonn: Germany's finance minister, Theo Waigel, has warned that the single European currency will not be launched on schedule in two years' time, unless those countries merging their currencies strictly observe the budget deficit terms next year.

Amid growing doubts over whether the key single currency aspirants, Germany and France, will manage to keep their deficits within 3

per cent of gross domestic product next year, Mr Waigel emphasised that the conditions for economic and monetary union were more important to Germany than the timetable for its implementation.

In remarks published this morning in the news weekly *Der Spiegel*, Mr Waigel declared that the 3 per cent deficit ceiling that is the key criterion for EMU had to be observed.

"If not, then the currency union will not take place in 1999," he said.

Mr Waigel's remarks coincided with growing speculation that Germany, France and the European Commission will judge the criteria to ensure that the single currency starts up on time.

صوتنا من الامل

Classroom attitudes study shows hostility to Germans

Owen Bowcott reports on the ignorance, stereotypes and prejudices revealed in a survey of British children's views on Germans. But it is not all bad news: sport, knowledge of the language and experience of the country result in a more positive image



The popularity of former Tottenham Hotspur striker Jürgen Klinsmann was a strong feature of the survey

PHOTOGRAPH: G-RES/COLE

Howard set to survive vote on handguns

Michael White
Political Editor

THE Home Secretary, Michael Howard, yesterday looked set to survive the crucial Commons vote on handguns tonight, despite cross-party opposition and promised rebellions within Tory ranks. A last minute campaign by the gun lobby was mounted yesterday which claimed that wealthy collectors of antique handguns had managed to prevent their weapons being confiscated under the "logical" terms of the bill. The former cabinet minister, David Mellor, was set to defy a three-line whip for the first time in 17 years as an MP. But ministers are on course to survive tonight's committee stage votes despite Mr Mellor and his allies supporting Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Nationalists in demands for a total handgun ban.

Cross-voting, including at least three pro-gun Labour MPs, plus a free vote among Ulster Unionists, should see Mr Howard's formula prevail against those who want 22 calibre weapons banned as well as larger ones, and those, mainly on the Tory right, who oppose both on libertarian or practical grounds.

Any result short of total abolition will guarantee that the Snowdrop Petition, representing the families of the Dunblane victims, will make guns an election issue — joined by other parties who believe John Major can defuse the row only if he allows MPs to vote with their conscience.

Mr Howard's plans, originally costed at £20 million-£40 million — now double that on official estimates — might end up costing at least £300 million and fail to solve the problem of multiple murder, the newly-formed Sportsman's Association said in newspaper adverts in Scotland.

While stressing the under-reported cost of compensating 1,000 gun shop owners for lost stock, lost jobs and business — more than £200 million on some counts — the association also protested that "heritage arms" from before 1919 and pre-1939 rare guns were excluded from the bill's amended terms.

"There are people with £1 million collections. The establishment has succeeded in protecting its own weapons. The people most affected are the poor and working class gun owners," said one lobbyist. But Mr Mellor is adamant that handguns must go.

In a series of TV interviews he contrasted the promised free vote on coming with the imposition of party discipline over handguns. "I deeply regret, even resent, being put in this position, when if I had views about little Johnny sticking his tongue out at teacher, whether he should be caned or not, I'm allowed to exercise my conscience about that," he told BBC's Breakfast with Frost. "I think that's an extremely funny way of managing a party."

'The Government will win the vote but lose the argument'

"The difficulty the Government faces is if they had a free vote they would lose. Because they're not having a free vote, more timorous spirits than me will vote with the Government against their consciences so the Government will have a pyrrhic victory. They will win the vote but lose the argument."

Mr Mellor's rightwing colleague, Nick Budgen, protested that tighter licensing plus obligatory club membership would mean "the chance of anybody holding a handgun legally committing serious offences was very small indeed. Even under the old law criteria, 56 per cent of crimes committed with a weapon were committed with illegally held weapons".

Though the Unionists may support Mr Major tonight, their leader, David Trimble, told BBC's On The Record yesterday that he could foresee a situation "before too long" where confidence issues would have to be considered — and he might help bring down the Government. "If there is a confidence issue next week, we'll consider it. We're not going to be scared of taking decisions on this."

Don't mention the war — they did

Rating Germans

Well known faces

Germans most frequently mentioned by British schoolchildren (percentage)

Adolf Hitler	53
Jürgen Klinsmann	47
Boris Becker	40
Steffi Graf	37
Michael Schumacher	33
Ludwig van Beethoven	16
Lothar Matthäus	15
Albert Einstein	11
Michael Stich	9
Joseph Goebbels	8
Hermann Goering	5

Liking Germans

British students asked how they felt about the Germans (percentage)

Like them	37
Dislike them	11
Don't know/hateful	12

Those who studied German and had visited Germany: Like them 77, Dislike them 31, Don't know/hateful 23. Those who hadn't: Like them 37, Dislike them 11, Don't know/hateful 12.

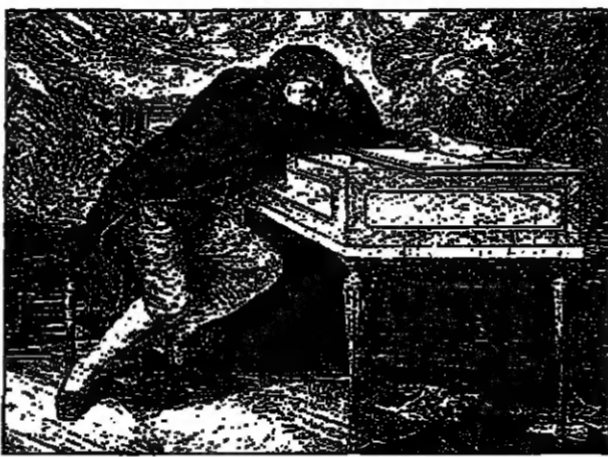
"DON'T let's be beastly to the Germans," Noel Coward sang during the second world war. More than 50 years on, many of the stereotypes he played upon are clearly thriving in Britain's classrooms.

A survey of pupils carried out for the Goethe Institut in London reveals Adolf Hitler way out ahead when 14 to 16-year-olds were asked to list their 10 most famous Germans, living or dead. Others who made it into the top 10 included the wartime Nazi leaders Joseph Goebbels and Hermann Goering. The fact that Hitler was born in Austria did not deter 68 per cent of those questioned, in both the UK and the Irish Republic, from nominating him for the top place.

Asked whether they considered Germans to be arrogant and nationalistic, more than 50 per cent of those who had never visited the country nor learnt the language replied "yes". The same group voted by a narrow majority that they disliked the Germans.

But it was not all bad news for Anglo-German relations. A more positive image came from the popularity of sporting figures. Former Tottenham Hotspur striker Jürgen Klinsmann, tennis stars Boris Becker and Steffi Graf, and the Formula One driver Michael Schumacher all featured strongly.

But there was a crop of howlers: "Boris Becker", "Joseph Gerbil", and "Henry Goering". One student wrote: "Hitler, Klinsmann, Matsus. Don't know any other footballers."



Beethoven, left, accorded his place in history, and Hitler, the best known of all Germans

Most cheering for educationalists was the clear distinction in attitudes between those who had never been to Germany or studied German and those who had done both.

Whereas the first group showed a majority disliking the Germans, those with German experience reversed the trend; 77 per cent said they liked them as opposed to only 11 per cent who did not.

Geoff Sammon, of the University of Bonn, author of the report Coping with Stereotypes, concluded: "The positive effects of a visit to Germany are particularly interesting when it is remembered that the average length of time spent in Germany was just less than two weeks."

As for political knowledge, few managed to name the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl. Several adopted distinctive variations, including "Hermit" and "Helmet". "Coal" or "Kolle". Others preferred "Eric Gorbachev" or even "Michael Gorbetrogh".



British pupils did better when it came to geography. An overwhelming majority managed to name five German towns and German rivers correctly.

Previous studies of attitudes to Germany have revealed alarming levels of prejudice and ignorance. The Goethe Institut accepts that some pupils have a

negative approach to the German language but believes this report counters the worst fears.

As for the popular prejudices shared by many Britons unable to name any contemporary German music other than the group Kraftwerk, the survey at least accords Beethoven his place in history.



Winning ways... GP driver Michael Schumacher



Tennis star Steffi Graf... boosting country's image

Plan for Zaire force evaporates

US cools on troop commitment as Rwandan refugees end exile

Jonathan Freedland
in Washington

THE Clinton administration and its international allies began to back off from their plan to send troops to eastern Zaire yesterday, as hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees ended their two-year exile and returned home. Conceding that the original need for a military mission was evaporating, the United States defence secretary, William Perry, stepped back from a commitment to dispatch troops to the region and said no decision on US deployment had yet been taken.

"If we have to go in we're ready to go in quickly," Mr Perry said on television yesterday. "But I can't forecast if that will be necessary."

Mr Perry's comments came as South Africa and Central African countries signalled

that they no longer saw any need for a multinational force — which many had privately opposed in the first place. The participating countries are due to meet on Wednesday in Stuttgart, home of the US military's European command, to review the mission. The meeting could see a proposal to postpone or at least sharply scale down the operation, which was agreed at the United Nations on Friday.

"We do not need the sort of numbers [of troops] that have been spoken about," South Africa's deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, said at the World Food Summit in Rome.

Other African leaders in Rome agreed, warning they would no longer welcome the proposed 10,000-strong UN-backed force. Rwanda's prime minister, Pierre-Celestin Rwigyema, held talks with them before declaring that the end of the two-year-old refugee crisis was in sight.

Rwanda's Tutsi-led government had been reluctant to allow an international force into the region, seeing it as cover for an increased role for France. The Tutsis still regard Paris as backers of Rwanda's Hutus, whose militants massacred more than 500,000 Tutsis in 1994.

The refugees now streaming across the Rwanda-Zaire border are Hutus, who fled after the civil war and who had been held as semi-hostages in camps by Hutu militants. On Friday, the militants fled into the Zairean bush, and the refugees were free to head home.

But the UN envoy, Raymond Chrétien, said yesterday the situation remained unstable and that a military force was still needed. US officials also cautioned that military support would probably be required to ensure that aid reaches all the refugees. They noted that up to half a million Rwandans are still unaccounted for and Hutu militants could be preventing their return.

"If this trend continues, it will change substantially the nature of the humanitarian problem," Mr Perry said on Saturday, referring to the sudden mass migration. "It will not eliminate the need for humanitarian support, but it will substantially change the nature of that need."

Even France acknowledged yesterday that the situation is now dramatically altered. As Xavier Emmanuelli, France's minister for humanitarian action, headed for the region, foreign ministry officials in Paris refused to give a firm date for when French troops would arrive, and suggested any mission would be completed before the UN-agreed deadline of March 31, 1997.

With President Bill Clinton's re-election, the US administration has no political need to cancel its involvement in the Africa force. But this week's announcement that US troops will stay in Bosnia for 18 months has reduced the appetite for a second foreign venture.

Most ends Hutu army's ambitions, page 7

Buying a computer for the first time or as a seasoned technology expert, decisions are always made by the head and the wallet and seldom the heart.

The fact is that a Compaq computer is often the heart's desire of any computer buyer, for home or office. So now, with a little help from Technology Online, one of the UK's

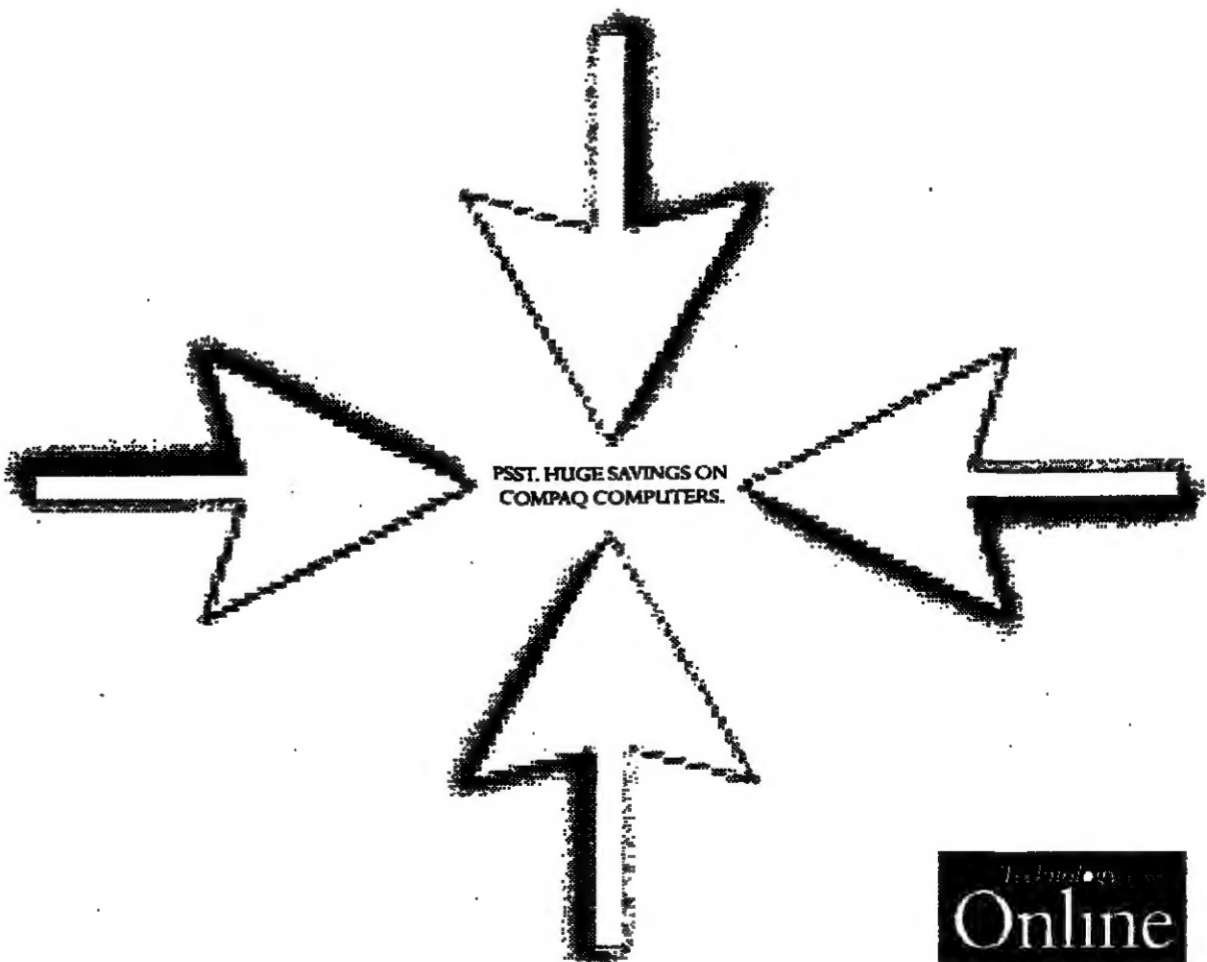


largest Compaq dealers, your heart's desire is now priced to suit every wallet and still be a decision your head will be happy with.

And, as if low prices were not enough, Technology Online will add a CareFREE 36, 3 year on site warranty absolutely FREE.

Three years' complete peace of mind and a quality of PC which could only be Compaq. Compaq Desktop 1000 5120 Mhz, Intel Pentium® 120-MHz processor, 256 Kb cache, 1-Gb hard drive, 16-MB memory plus Compaq 140, 14" SVGA monitor.

CareFREE 36
3 year on site warranty



ORDER HOTLINE
Tel: 0345 02 38 65

Technology Online

FAX
01925 830040

Technology Online
Stanford House, Science Park South,
Hertford, Hertfordshire, Chesham WD3 7JH.

Maoist guerrillas have vowed to bomb it; farmers' groups have argued that it is part of a global plot by Western multinationals to promote foreign goods; and a women's group has threatened to upstage it with a mass public suicide. Miss World in India

G2 page 10

COMPAQ COSTS YOU LESS THAN CHEAPER COMPUTERS.
Offer valid 11.12.96. Offer valid while stocks last. Photograph shows 17" monitor price quoted refers to specifications described only and is exclusive of VAT at 17.5%. Hardware is a registered trademark of Intel Corporation.

4 BRITAIN

Family car that fell victim to post-war planning found under barn's dust and cobwebs

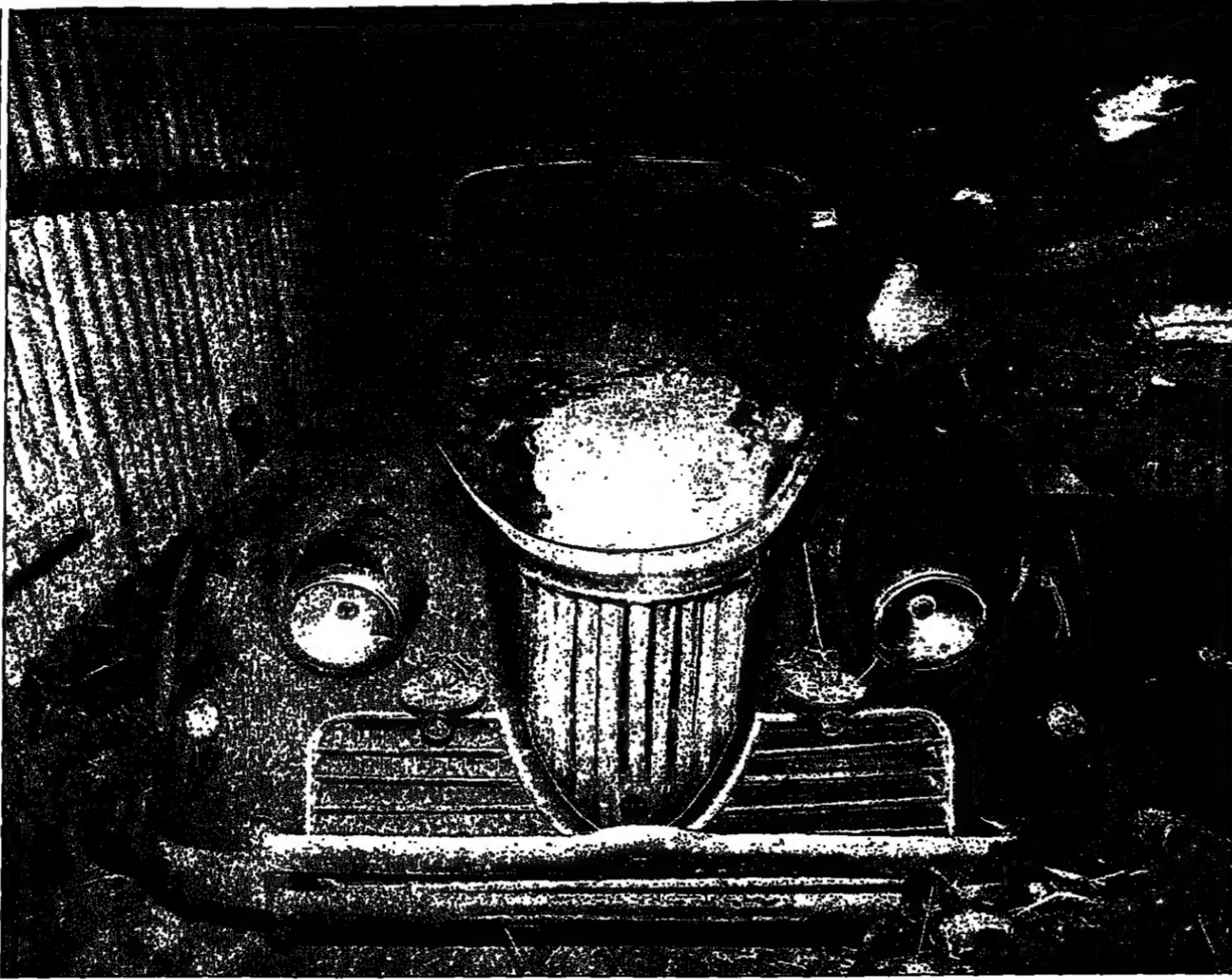
A UNIQUE survivor of Britain's troubled post-war car industry in a Hampshire barn, right where it was rediscovered amid the dust and cobwebs. Only one complete Murad saloon was built as a test model in 1948 before the production line ground to a halt, the victim, allegedly, of misguided government planning policies, writes Owen Bowcott.

Named after the Lebanese engineer Wadla Murad, the sole prototype was built at his machine tool factory near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. The vehicle was intended to be an upmarket rival to contemporary family cars such as the Riley and Alvis.

Production was repeatedly disrupted because the Labour government reportedly insisted that Mr Murad transfer his factory to a development area. He refused to relocate to Wales or Scotland but eventually settled on Sheerness in Kent. But Mr Murad had run out of capital, having completed only one vehicle. He continued to drive the 1.5 litre saloon until the early 1970s.

The National Motor Museum in Beaulieu, Hampshire, did not know whether the car still existed until yesterday, when John Quane, a classic car enthusiast who lives near Winchester, revealed he has been keeping it in his barn.

The vehicle is to be restored shortly for Kew Motor Museum in west London. "This is the only one of its type," said Mr Quane yesterday. "It was going to be sold abroad last year but the owner didn't want it to go."



Ministers 'set to lose' on refugees

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

MINISTERS are to drop their attempt to withdraw state help from 15,000 asylum seekers who would otherwise face destitution on the streets of London, if they lose an appeal in the new year against a High Court ruling.

Government lawyers have advised ministers they are likely to lose the appeal against the ruling last month that local authorities had to help children and families in need who are asylum seekers, under the 1948 National Assistance Act.

A Whitehall briefing for ministers says "early signs are that primary legislation may be needed to restore the policy intention". Such a move would be particularly embarrassing because the High Court ruling on October 9 overturned emergency legislation introduced only in June by the Social Security Secretary, Peter Lilley, because the judges had already ruled that axing state help to asylum seekers "was not the action of a civilised country". Ministers are privately resigned to giving up the whole fight in the knowledge that there is little chance of there being enough parliamentary time before the election to use emergency legislation again to overturn the expected appeal court ruling in January.

A spokesman said the case would be vigorously contested. Ministers were still in talks with local authorities

over how the bill for helping the asylum seekers should be met. "We will wait to see the outcome of that appeal," he said.

Local authorities, mainly in London, are providing housing and help for 759 families with children, 700 unaccompanied children and a further 1,000 adults. All are waiting to hear from the Home Office the outcome of their applications for asylum.

The Association of London Government says the bill for preventing the asylum seekers' being left destitute on the capital's streets will reach 540 million. The total cost will rise to 545 million a year if "legislation is not amended and the court rulings are co-operative".

Nick Hardwick, director of the Refugee Council, said the situation for asylum seekers is utter chaos, with local authorities responding in different ways and 100 people a day arriving at the council's centre in London.

He said any attempt to introduce legislation to override the ruling by the judges would only restore the position in January this year. "Then the Government pulled back from leaving thousands of people destitute on the streets in the middle of winter. If it was unacceptable in January 1996, why will it not be unacceptable in January 1997?" Mr Hardwick said. "There is an alternative. They could for once listen and use some of the savings they have to reimburse local authorities and help them discharge their duties and respect people's basic dignities."

Names called in storm in cul-de-sac

Tribute to councillor leads to court action by newcomer, reports Sarah Boseley

WHAT'S in a street name? To buyers of what estate agents describe as luxury homes in a prestigious development, the address matters almost as much as the number of fitted kitchen cabinets.

Elmhurst Court, thought Ray Knightly, who moved into a development with that provisional name in Beetley, Norfolk, last August, has a certain cachet. Bryan Barnard Close, the choice of the parish council, does not, for him, have the same ring to it.

Mr Knightly, together with the developer, John Hilditch, is taking Breckland district

council, which has the duty to name the road and backed the parish choice, to court.

In Beetley, a rural community near Dereham of just 1,300, everybody knew Bryan Barnard, who died in 1988. The railway guard had secured parish, district and county council seats during his 60 years in the village. He was also cricket club chairman.

His son, David Barnard, aged 56, who has been on the parish council for 25 years, said the decision came from the other members, but was the result of a new policy. "The parish is littered with

Beech Roads and other country names," he said. "The council thought it would be nice to honour some of the village's elder statesmen."

"The majority of residents are in favour. They all knew my father. But with new people moving in, they have new ideas."

Mr Knightly, who has moved with his wife Lesley and their five-year-old son, Matthew, from Essex into the first of the four- and five-bedroom detached homes to be completed, complains that his protests have been ignored.

To him, the name makes the 10-property cul-de-sac "sound like a council scheme". He added: "I must admit I would have had second thoughts about moving here if I had known about

the name." Mr Hilditch chose Elmhurst Court because the plot was off Elmhurst Road, "a mix of quite expensive houses known as millionaires' row."

He has nothing against Bryan Barnard personally, he says. "He was known to be red through and through, but that doesn't come into it." The houses are priced between £95,000 and £115,000. An estate agent is expected to give evidence at the court hearing that the change of name could affect the value.

Tables of exam results 'will distort achievements'

John Carvel

INDEPENDENT school heads and local authority leaders warned last night that league tables of school exam performance at GCSE and A level, to be released by the Government this week, will misrepresent the achievements of their pupils.

The tables — to be published in a 20-page supplement in the Guardian on Wednesday — are expected to show a slight improvement at almost all levels of ability, allowing ministers to claim credit for their changes.

But they are expected to provoke a political row about failure to meet national education targets. The School Curriculum and Assessment

Authority and National Council for Education and Training Targets have told Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, that 55 per cent should be getting at least five good GCSE grades.

The Independent Schools Information Service complained that the tables will exclude the results of thousands of public school candidates.

The Association of London Government said the crude figures failed to give credit for schools improving on past performance. "The tables cannot hope to measure the amount of work put in by many schools which face severe social disadvantages and yet against the odds manage to improve the results," said Sheila Knight, London's education chairwoman.

40 per cent of 11-year-olds lack basic maths and English in UK

John Carvel Education Editor

A SHARP improvement in the performance of England's 11-year-olds at national tests in reading, writing and arithmetic was hailed last night by ministers and teachers' leaders as evidence of solid progress.

However, the results showed more than 40 per cent of pupils graduating from primary schools this summer failed to reach the standard expected for their age group. About 200,000 children started secondary education this

term without the basic knowledge of English and maths needed for successful study.

Cheryl Gillan, the education minister, said the 11-year-olds had "scored a great success". When the scheme was introduced last year, only 48 per cent reached the target "Level 4" in English and 44 per cent in maths. This year there was a 10 percentage point increase in both scores, bringing the pass rate for English to 58 per cent and for maths to 54 per cent. There was a deterioration in science where 62 per cent reached the expected standard compared with 70 per cent last year.

Whatever you want - MJN have the answer

0% Interest Free Credit

MJN have put together two superb high performance PC systems with a massive software bundle to provide you with everything you are ever likely to need. Take a closer look at the amazing specification of these systems which are available on Interest Free Credit from only £58 per month. Early orders also qualify for a free 28.8 modem

MJN P133 Office
16Mb EDO RAM, 1Gb hard disk and 14" SVGA screen.
£58 per month

MJN P166+ Office
32Mb EDO RAM, 2Gb hard disk and 15" SVGA screen.
£67 per month

MJN Special Offers Extended November 22nd

Printer Options: Wide range of printers available at competitive prices

MJN 01282 777 555
Telephone sales lines are open Monday - Friday 9.00am - 7.00pm. Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm

A CABLE & WIRELESS COMPANY

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

BT TO INDIA:
£12.63

MERCURY TO INDIA:
£9.44
(SO TALK CAN BE CHEAP.)

A saving of £3.19 on a 10 minute call to India is certainly worth talking about. And the fact we're still 20% to 39% cheaper than BT on international calls, is a real conversation point. For details FreeCall 0500 500 366.

Mercury SmartCall
You don't have to be a genius to see how much you'll save.

Prices quoted to India based on a 10 minute economy call. Prices and savings correct as at 8 October 1996, compared with BT's basic rate for international calls of 5 minutes or more, open-Sun weekdays and any rise at weekends. Savings available for a quarterly fee of £5.75 (inc. VAT).
http://www.mercury.co.uk

صحة من الامم

Michael White sees Labour hasten to head off allegations about sleaze, as ministers rush to accuse the party leader of hypocrisy

Donors' names 'not known to Blair'

Fund on register of MPs' interests

THE names of wealthy contributors to the £500,000 a year cost of running Tony Blair's private office were unknown to the Labour leader until he read them in newspapers yesterday, colleagues said last night as ministers rushed to accuse him of hypocrisy.

It was certainly not a "secret" as alleged by Sunday newspapers and the Tory chairman, Brian Marlin, whose party line remains that private donations privately made should stay that way. The theory behind Mr Blair's blind trust arrangements is not unlike the "Chinese Wall" said to exist between fundraising and policymaking at Conservative Central Office, though these appear to have been breached by Tory business interests in search of influence from time to time. Given that Labour is pledged to name all donors of

sums greater than £5,000, some Labour MPs were nervous last night at the official suggestion that donations from sympathetic tycoons to keep Mr Blair's private office running were not, technically speaking, donations to Labour. With fresh claims circulating yesterday that ministers were using taxpayer-funded "business breakfasts" to win support in key marginals at a cost of up to £250,000, Dr Marlin saw an opportunity to counter-attack. "The revelations of a highly secret fund to finance Mr Blair's private office expose

TV, and the publishing millionaire Bob Gavron, the Sunday Times reported. Donors were known only to the trustees — Lord Merlyn Rees, the former Home Secretary, Baroness Jay, daughter of the former prime minister Lord Callaghan, and Baroness Dean, former general secretary of printing union Sogal. "Hundreds of thousands of pounds are pouring into a secret account for Mr Blair and his colleagues, and this is only the tip of the iceberg," said Dr Marlin. Mr Blair, who also gets some state aid for staff and donations from other trusts, says

Video on life inside keeps youngsters out of crime

Duncan Campbell
Crime Correspondent
TONY was having a cup of tea with his mates when Eddie arrived. Eddie was a quiet character who liked to spend most of his time on his own playing his guitar. He wanted to borrow a cigarette from Tony. Tony told Eddie he was fed up with always being asked for tobacco and refused to oblige. Shortly afterwards, Eddie returned and asked for a quiet word with Tony next door. Eddie then stabbed him up the anus, severing his spinal cord, and he is now, at the age of 27, confined to a wheelchair. The events took place at Maidstone prison, Kent, and are recounted on a video, Better Off Than In, by a man serving 14 years for robbery. Now Surrey, Kent and the Metropolitan police have ordered copies, and it is being used as part of a strategy to dissuade young people from crime. The person behind the video is Mick Hart, a west Londoner in the 20th year of a life sentence for murder and armed robbery. His earliest possible release date is five years away. Talking from Coldingley prison in Woking, Surrey, yesterday, Hart said he had the idea for the video in 1983, but it had taken many years to come to fruition. Three years ago a group of 120 youngsters identified as being at risk of falling into crime had been taken to Maidstone prison to hear first hand from prisoners what life inside was like. The feedback



Mick Hart, who is in the 20th year of a life sentence for robbery and murder, pictured in the video, which was his idea and includes some of his prison experiences

Prison radio breaks out

Andrew Cuff
Media Correspondent
PRISONS have long been a source of inspiration for broadcasters. But Furrledge and Prisoner Radio Blackout have given a distorted view of life behind bars. Last night a new radio station went on the air with a mission to give 4 million listeners a flavour of life inside. Radio Feltham — slogan "Power Cell" — has been granted a temporary licence to broadcast beyond the walls of Feltham Young Offenders Institute, in west London, to mark National Prisoners Week. For the past 2½ years the station, run by the inmates themselves, has been broadcasting to a captive audience of 900 people. The restricted service licence, granted by the Radio Authority, means the station will be heard on 87.7FM in Richmond, Twickenham, Hounslow, Staines, Windsor and other nearby towns. The week was launched by Pete Townsend, of The Who, who opened the station's £20,000 new studio at the Institute last night. Mark Robinson, the station's founder, said: "It will enable people to get a flavour of life inside, to get to know a bit about the lads themselves and most importantly see what a great job they have been doing running the radio station all this time." The station costs £20,000 a year to run and depends mainly on donations.

Head butt breaks nose of Labour MP

News in brief
A LABOUR MP was yesterday nursing a broken nose after being head-butted in Wigan, Greater Manchester. Ian McCartney, the 5ft 4in opposition employment spokesman, was knocked to the floor while having a quiet drink in the Platt Bridge Labour Club in Wigan, Greater Manchester. "I'd been having a quiet drink with a friend," said Mr McCartney, aged 45, MP for Macclesfield. "It's my local club where I have been a member for 17 years. Within minutes of getting in, I was being verbally assaulted. All sorts of things were said." Mr McCartney tried to ignore the insults but eventually asked his abuser to leave, and was punched and

'IRA escape plot' thwarted

A SUSPECTED plot to free IRA terrorists from two high-security jails was being investigated last night. A full-scale search of Full Sutton prison, near York, lasting two days, was completed at the weekend. Prison authorities said an investigation was continuing into the alert, understood to have started after the discovery of impressions of master keys in the cells of former IRA inmates.

Blacks differ on race relations

A SURVEY of black people living in Britain shows 40 per cent think of themselves as British rather than African or Afro-Caribbean. The NOP poll of 18-35 year-olds also found 52 per cent believed race relations had improved in the past five years, while 40 per cent believed they had deteriorated. The survey commissioned by the black weekly newspaper New Nation will be published today. "This shows that black people in Britain, despite social challenges, are making a go of their lives as an integral part of the UK," said publisher Tetch Kotf.

Nicholas Baker MP

OUR article on October 18, 1995, headed "Minister has to resign after illness", reporting Nicholas Baker's resignation from his Home Office post, stated that he was a major loser in the Lloyd's insurance market and that this was confirmed by Mr Baker's subsequent sale of his house in Westminster. The Guardian now accepts these statements were untrue and apologises for the embarrassment caused. The Guardian also did not intend to suggest that Mr Baker's resignation was attributable to anything other than illness.

Four share jackpot

FOUR tickets are to share this week's £22,088,530 National Lottery jackpot. Each will collect £5,522,130 for matching six balls. The winning numbers were: 1 5 16 18 37 42. Bonus number: 24.

Entertainments & Travel

PAUL NICHOLAS
IN
ROBIN HOOD
AND THE BARKS IN THE WOOD
FROM SAT 14 DEC
WIMBLEDON THEATRE
071 413 3385

BY JEEVES
THE FOUR SEASONS
Pentameters Theatre
0171 435 3648

LYRIC THEATRE
0171 494 5045
0171 420 0000

SUNSET BOULEVARD
BEST MUSICAL
PETERA CLARK
0171 344 0005 (day)
0171 344 0006 (eve)

ALBERT THEATRE
0171 262 1720
0171 262 1721 (day)
0171 262 1722 (eve)

THE CHERRY ORCHARD
0171 262 1720

APOLLON THEATRE
0171 413 3385

STARLIGHT EXPRESS
0171 413 3385

GREASE
0171 413 3385

THE WOMAN IN BLACK
0171 413 3385

MAGGIE SMITH
0171 413 3385

MARGARET TYZACK
0171 413 3385

TALKING HEADS
0171 413 3385

ALAN BENNETT
0171 413 3385

THE REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
0171 413 3385

BOB MOSKONS
0171 413 3385

OLD WICKED SONGS
0171 413 3385

DIAL M FOR MURDER
0171 413 3385

THE CHERRY ORCHARD
0171 413 3385

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
0171 413 3385

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE
0171 413 3385

GENE WILDER
0171 413 3385

BLOOD BROTHERS
0171 413 3385

SWAN LAKE
0171 413 3385

THE MOUNTAIN
0171 413 3385

FLIGHT MARKET
0171 413 3385

OVERSEAS
0171 413 3385

MUSIC EXTRA
0171 413 3385

OPERA
0171 413 3385

ART GALLERIES
0171 413 3385

Troubled times stretch faith in Kohl

The chancellor sees European integration as the road to the future, but the struggle to fulfil the criteria for monetary union has entailed cuts and hardship. Many fear Kohl has bitten off more than he can chew, and insecurity about the launch of the euro has prompted savers to salt money away abroad. But — for now at least — the public still sees him not as the cause of the problems, but as the man who will ensure they are properly dealt with.

In the first of a series on the mood in Germany as it strives for a new role at the heart of a united Europe, **Ian Traynor** and **Martin Woollacott** test the temperature in Bonn



PETER Ermlich spent last week banging a steel drum in a rain-swept Bonn, fearful for his future, his job, and the livelihood of his mining community. A hundred yards away, Helmut Kohl was pushing through more cuts in Germany's generous system of benefits and industrial subsidies. For the German chancellor, this is the road to European integration and the 21st century. For Mr Ermlich and the other miners staging a noisy round-the-clock vigil outside Mr Kohl's office, it is the road to ruin.

"All these cuts are going to kill us," said Mr Ermlich, aged 36, a Dortmund miner who went down the pit as a teenager. "Coal not Kohl," the banners proclaimed in protest at government plans to slash mining subsidies. "Once the colliery dies, the town dies."

These are troubled times for all Germans. In his determination to achieve European political and monetary

'Germany has overextended its capacity to cope with problems'

union, the chancellor has thrust a huge burden on the shoulders of Europe's most powerful country. The word one hears more and more in Germany is *überfordert* (overstretched).

Many Germans worry that Mr Kohl has bitten off more than he can chew — unemployment expected to exceed five million next year; the

single currency project has severely overloaded the circuits. This country has overextended its capacity to cope with its problems.

In short, with Chancellor Kohl in his 15th year in power, the most successful ever German state confronts the biggest changes since the upheavals of the late 1960s, and perhaps since the war.

Warnings of trouble ahead

It would be foolish to conclude that Germany will fail in this extraordinary effort. The chancellor and the bulk of the political and industrial elite are extremely determined. Mr Kohl is one of very few who question the whole process. The chancellor's is a weary determination, driven as much by fear of failure as by hope for the future, but it is steady.

Mr Kohl has created a situation in which failure on monetary union would be seen as a greater disaster than whatever difficulties lie beyond 1999. "Germany is overloaded with problems,"

said Jochen Thies, a journalist and analyst, "but Germans see Kohl not as the man who created the problems but as the man who will ensure that they are properly dealt with."

The huge trust in Mr Kohl — who the historian Golo Mann suggested a few years ago should resign "because he has never had a single good idea" — indicates the depth of German anxiety. The elite also feels the pressure of the rest of Europe's constant need for reassurance.

Below a surface confidence

Beneath a surface confidence in Germany's capabilities and resources lies great uncertainty. The most important decision for decades has been taken without much debate, at a time when the ruling party is under the sway of a powerful and long-established leader and the main opposition party is in disarray. It almost seems as if the debate that ought to have preceded the decision is taking place afterwards — when it cannot affect the outcome.

Insecurity manifests itself in many ways. Small savers salt away money in Luxem-

bourg or Switzerland, both to avoid the German taxman and for fear of the leap in the dark of 1999's single currency launch. About 70,000 investigations are being conducted into German banks' alleged aiding and abetting of tax evasion.

Business capital is also rushing out of the country in search of higher returns.

'If it doesn't work out, at least we will have Berlin as the capital'

There is a dearth of domestic and inward investment which the economic advisers named as the single biggest reason for the flagging economy.

Among the Bonn elite, even true believers in the European project, the owners are having second thoughts about putting their money where their mouths are. One member of the foreign policy establishment said that for the first time in her life she was considering investing her savings in property in case

her confidence in the euro turned out to be misplaced.

Some political veterans argue that the challenges of the next few years are so monumental as to require a "grand coalition" of the two big parties — Mr Kohl's ruling Christian Democrats and the opposition Social Democrats.

Germans are reluctant risk-takers and Mr Kohl's mission

is an unsettling gamble on a national and European scale.

It is also a venture with almost magical qualities. The 1999 deadline has what the historian Karl Dietrich Bracher calls "psychological resonance."

"The mantra is that everything has to happen before 2000. Why must everything happen in 1999? There are magical, psychological and irrational elements."

The 1999 deadline can be seen as a way for Germany to

end in a positive way a century in which it caused disaster for itself and for Europe. It chimes with 1989 when the turn in international affairs pointed toward German unification. It marks 50 years since the first steps to reintegrate post-war Germany into Europe and the international community. It also marks the transition between the Bonn and the Berlin republics.

The rest of Europe is inevitably caught up in this German millennium and dependent on how potent this German magic proves.

Few Germans oppose it, not many express clear doubts, but the ambiguity of what is being attempted occasionally produces an oblique admission that things could go wrong.

One Kohl aide, after talking at length of the firmness with which the chancellor and Germany are pursuing their objectives, eventually paused, shrugged, and said: "If it doesn't work out, at least we will have Berlin as the capital."

Tomorrow: Eastern Germany

SORRY
IF YOU'RE UNDER AGE
WE CAN'T SERVE YOU.

OUR LOW COST HOME INSURANCE IS ONLY AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE OVER 50.

This is why our premiums are so low. Call us today to find out how much you could be saving.

- LOW PREMIUMS
- DISCOUNTS FOR SECURE HOMES
- TROUBLE-FREE CLAIMS SERVICE
- FREE 24 HOUR HOME HELPLINES

COVER GUARANTEE. If you are not completely happy with the insurance offered, return it within 15 days for a full refund.

Call free now for a no obligation quote
0800 414 525
ref GUN608

Free pen with your quotation. Lines are open 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm Saturday.

SAGA
Services Ltd

SAGA Services Ltd would like to send you information about services provided by other SAGA companies and may pass this information to other companies to enable them to do so.

Swiss armed but not dangerous

Owen Bennett-Jones in Geneva writes from a country which challenges assumed links between gun ownership and crime

WITH more guns than people, Switzerland provides compelling evidence for those who argue that a high level of gun ownership does not necessarily result in a high murder rate.

"We have 6.5 million people and around 7 million guns in Switzerland," said Frank Leutenegger, a gun lobbyist from Lausanne. "We had just 65 deaths with firearms last year — the lowest murder rate in Europe, if not the world."

Most Swiss guns are privately owned but around 500,000 have been issued by the army, which requires virtually every man to keep a semi-automatic assault rifle and live ammunition in his home.

This policy is based on the principles of Switzerland's "people's army". The entire male population can be mobilised within 24

hours of the country being attacked. Men undergo a few weeks of military training each year for most of their adult life.

Each weekend and railway stations are awash with guns as men travel to or from training exercises. Tourists wonder whether war has been declared.

You can buy weapons over the counter on production of an identity card

Once a man finishes his military service he is allowed to keep his gun for his own use. "One of the reasons that the Swiss don't misuse guns is because they are taught by the army how to use them. They have professional training about the dangers of a gun," argued Professor Peter Tschopp, a member of the Swiss parliament.

He pointed out that only a small proportion of the deaths caused by firearms involve the army-issued guns. "We have hundreds of thousands of military sub-machine-guns in circulation and yet with those we have an average of only 10 accidents each year. And eight of those cases will be suicides," he added.

Swiss gun laws are remarkably lax. High street stores openly display everything from hunting rifles to fully automatic sub-machine-guns. In many places you can buy weapons over the counter on production of an identity card.

Even foreigners who have lived in Switzerland for more than five years enjoy this right. The only exceptions are Turks and former Yugoslavs, who were found to have a propensity

Castro keen on holy alliance

John Hooper in Rome

FIDEL Castro is to meet Pope John Paul II tomorrow in an historic encounter which the Cuban president said last night he hoped could lead to a lifting of the United States embargo on his island.

Now that the American election was over, he said, he hoped that President Clinton and his administration would be able to do something. He recognised nevertheless that the American leader was constrained by a Republican Congress which he said was hostile to "the extreme right".

He told a news conference at the end of the World Food Summit in Rome that the Pope could make a "very important contribution" towards ending the blockade.

But the two men remain at opposite ends of the ideological spectrum and the Polish Pope, who supported the fall of communism in Eastern Europe, will find the former guerrilla as unrepentant and revolutionary as ever.

Last night President Castro dismissed calls for change in Cuba. "The revolution was the opening," he declared. "We don't have to make any new opening against the revolution."

Arriving a day later than expected, he shattered the summit's polite formality. In his speech to delegates he said that Western values were to blame for the world's hunger.

"Capitalism, neo-liberalism, the laws of an uncontrolled market, external debt and underdevelopment (are) killing so many people in the world," he said.

The summit, sponsored by the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organisation, is aimed at committing the international community to halving over the next 20 years the number of undernourished people in the world from a present level of 140 million.

Voicing the concern of many non-governmental organisations in the field of aid and development, President Castro said: "The very modesty of these goals is shameful."

He went on to ask: "If the world is rightly moved by accidents and natural or social catastrophes that bring death to hundreds or thousands of people why is it not equally moved by that genocide which is taking place every day in front of our eyes?"

Exploiting to the full a rare chance to shine on the international stage, the Cuban leader argued that the American embargo was also "attempts genocide against our country."

"I think this is a crime against humankind. We can't buy aspirin to stop a headache or medicines against cancer to save lives."

He expressed the hope that the American endorsement of the summit's final declaration would make it rethink its policy.

But it emerged last night that the US was among 15 countries that had expressed formal reservations about the text.

It has been speculated that tomorrow's meeting could lead to the Pope's first visit to Cuba. The Vatican wants President Castro to grant the church greater freedom of action and, specifically, to grant visas to foreign priests to increase the dwindling number of Roman Catholic clergy in Cuba.

New fights old in Romanian poll

Nick Thorpe in Bucharest and Jellen Berger

ROMANIAN voters were asked to choose between continuity and fundamental change yesterday in a presidential election which pitted President Ion Iliescu, an ex-communist who has run the country for the past seven years, against a liberal challenger, Emil Constantinescu.

A victory for Mr Constantinescu, aged 56, a geology professor with no experience of high office, would complete a stunning hat-trick by the opposition Democratic Convention in local, parliamentary, and now presidential elections.

The party won control of parliament two weeks ago and has started coalition talks with the Social Democratic Union, led by the former prime minister, Petre Roman.

President Iliescu won most votes in the first round of the

presidential contest on November 3, but by a small margin. Mr Roman was eliminated and Mr Constantinescu hoped to inherit most of his support in yesterday's runoff.

Outside a polling booth in the capital Bucharest, most voters said they had chosen Mr Constantinescu. "I voted for change," said Romeo Aslan, a pensioner. "We do not want to be the generation which was sacrificed. Those in power told us all would be well, but we have grown old and still all is not well."

Another pensioner, who gave her name only as Elena, was one of very few who admitted voting for President Iliescu. "He tried to repair a little the disaster which the communists led our country into," she said. "We want peace and quiet and orderliness."

These two slogans have dominated the election battle — *schimbare* (change), and *liniste* (peace and order).

THIS IS A CASE!
 0800 482

سكرا من الاصل

Disillusioned Zambians shun skewed poll

Andrew Meldrum in Harare

ZAMBIANS go to the polls today disillusioned, cynical and perhaps a bit wiser about the wily ways of politicians.

A turnout of less than 50 per cent of Zambia's 4.6 million eligible voters is expected for the presidential and parliamentary elections. The lack of voter enthusiasm apparent today is in contrast to the euphoria with which Zambians voted an end to Kenneth Kaunda's 27-year one-party rule five years ago.

The outspoken union leader Frederick Chiluba was then endorsed by the electorate as the man to renew Zambia's democracy.

Mr Chiluba is assured of victory in the presidential race and his Mass Movement for Democracy will win a majority in the 150-seat parliament. But Zambia's second multiparty elections appear a sham because there will be no challenging opposition.

Earlier this year Mr Chiluba's party altered the constitution to make Mr Kaunda ineligible to run for president. Mr Kaunda, who for nearly 30 years embodied Zambian nationalism, is deemed not qualified to run for president because his parents were Malawians who emigrated to Zambia at the turn of the century.

Even though there was very little chance that Mr Kaunda would have been able to win, Mr Chiluba and the MMD wanted to make sure that Mr Kaunda would be permanently out of the way. In protest at Mr Kaunda's disqualification most members of his Uip party are boycotting the polls.

Dissatisfaction at the way the elections are being manip-

ulated provoked riots last week at the University of Zambia which forced the Chiluba government to close the campus until after the polls. A few months ago a protest group whose members call themselves "Black Mambas" after the deadly African snake showed its displeasure by setting off small bombs at government offices.

In addition to their unease at the disqualification of Mr Kaunda, many Zambians are also feeling the gnawing of poverty. The Chiluba government has implemented the World Bank's free market economic reforms, but so far these have not improved Zambia's grindingly low living standards.

The average annual income is \$225 a person. Recent surveys show 80 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line with high rates of malnutrition and infant mortality.

And there is a whiff of corruption around the Chiluba cabinet. Several cabinet members have had to resign because of allegations they were involved in international drug rings. One of those is the former foreign minister, Vernon Mwaanga, who remains chairman of the MMD.

Nine political parties are standing in the election including the Poor People's Party and the New Lima Party.

One promising presidential candidate is Dean Mungoma, a Texan-trained economist who leads the Zambian Democratic Party.

The party is tipped to win 30 parliamentary seats and could present Zambia with a new opposition that is not sullied by association with the old one-party days or with the new Chiluba government's tricky ways.

Rwandan refugees stream home



Jean de Dieu Habyalimana hugs his mother Angeline Mborwili in front of his home in Kabiza yesterday after two years exile in Zaire. More than 300,000 refugees have already returned to Rwanda. PHOTOGRAPH: JEAN-MARC BOUJOU

Shouts of joy as families are reunited

Stephen Buckley in Kabiza

THEY filled the village centre for hours, waiting for brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers. The sun grew hot, and they waited. Rain fell hard and long, and still they waited.

And then, as residents of this village a few miles from the Rwandan-Zaire border watched friends and relatives churn up the hill towards home, balancing bedrolls and pots and straw mats on their heads, a scene repeated itself again and again.

Fathers hugged sons they had not seen in two years. Children embraced play-

mates. Mothers kissed daughters. Youngsters scampered to greet their parents. Grandmothers began to dance.

"I have been praying I would see my sons again," said Jean Damassen, as he hugged his son, Joseph Semirango, aged 45, who returned with his wife and five of his eight children. "I have had no news for the past two years."

And those scenes were repeated in many villages on Saturday, as hundreds of thousands of refugees who had spent the past two years in eastern Zaire continued to pour across the border.

Places such as Kabiza saw streams of refugees

throughout the day. About 300 weary refugees filled the village church.

As each family entered Kabiza, hugging and kissing and shaking hands with those greeting them, a roar went up from the villagers.

"It's like people had their right arm cut off," Wendy Driscoll, a spokeswoman for Care International, said as she watched the scene, "and suddenly, they've got it back." — Washington Post.

Rout ends Hutu army's ambitions

Chris McGreal in
Mugunga uncovers
the crushed militias'
blueprints for battle

FOR two years, Rwanda's crushed Hutu army dragged around the fantasy that it could turn defeat into victory. The delusion was hauled in big green buses stacked high with evidence of plans to reinvade Rwanda, and with illegal weapons shipments from Africa and Europe.

Now the green buses stand crumpled on a short stretch of road west of Goma, spewing their fallacies where the Hutu extremists saw them shattered.

As Zairean rebels and Rwandan Tutsi soldiers bore down on Mugunga refugee camp last week, the notorious Interahamwe militia and Hutu soldiers, who fled Rwanda after leading the genocide two years ago, turned and ran. A few of the buses, donated by Japan in more peaceful times, set off in a convoy with army lorries, minibuses and cars. They made it barely a mile beyond the camp when their foes caught up.

The road stands as a monument to the crushing of the Interahamwe. The buses are at angles across the road, where they ground to a halt in gunfire, probably in an ambush. Fluttering in the breeze are blueprints for a mythical battle to attack across the border into Rwanda — which will not now take place. The war was fought the other way round: the invaders came from Rwanda into Zaire.

Exercise books carried instructions on how to lay an ambush, plant a mine and assassinate a government official. Along with the advice on how to kill were poignant entries in an old diary testifying to fear and regret.

"My God I'm frightened. I pray to God to help us in the distress we're living in at the moment. We ask forgiveness. Help us, dear God," an anonymous hand wrote.

But help was not forthcoming. The panic with which the Hutus fled the ambush can be seen in the boots shed as they ran in terror, the

discarded weapons and abandoned family photographs. Zairean villagers scavenged among the remains. They checked clothing and uniforms for blood stains to see if they were fit to wear. Most passed the test.

Cars and buses were reduced to skeletons as young men dismantled engines, pulled out windows and carried off lights. But they threw aside the soldiers' love letters, and the hundreds of condoms donated by aid agencies.

For all the destruction, there were few corpses — only half a dozen soldiers and the occasional refugee overcome by exhaustion. Perhaps the Zairean rebels had disposed of them.

The Interahamwe and Hutu soldiers have fallen back north-west towards Masisi. The United Nations estimates that they have taken with them about 150,000 people. Some will be the families of militiamen. Others, fear returning to Rwanda and being held accountable for their role in the genocide.

Hundreds of thousands more refugees left as they came two years ago. The Zairean rebels and Rwandan Tutsi soldiers have made it clear they must go.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees said about 350,000 refugees had crossed into Rwanda by last night. The fate of the remaining half estimated to have been in the camps around Goma when fighting began last month is unknown. Another 500,000 are still unaccounted for further south, in the Bukavu area.

Despite the pressure to keep moving, some refugees refused to go on until they had eaten. But the stream continued past them, many small children numbed by the endless journey.

A Red Cross lorry collected the wounded — including some hacked with machetes — and the sick. At least nine people died yesterday of cholera. But the death toll so far has been lower than the UN and aid agencies predicted for a mass forced repatriation.

For the first time, some refugees talk of the "criminals" — a tacit admission of the genocide they denied so long. But ask if they carry any personal responsibility for the slaughter, and the answer is still no.

World population growing more slowly than expected

Barbara Crossette
in New York

A UNITED Nations survey has found that the world's population is growing more slowly in most places than expected a few years ago. It also found that the number of people being added to the world each year has begun to fall sooner than anticipated.

Analysts say that family planning and other aid programmes of the 1950s and 1970s that gave couples more control over the number of children they had, augmented by more recent moves to give women more economic power and social status, have paid off in steady, continuous fertility declines in every region.

But these gains could be reversed if foreign aid budgets continue to shrink.

The slowing rate of population growth can also be partly

attributed to higher death rates in some areas, Joseph Chamie of the UN population division said. War and AIDS have reduced life expectancy in Africa, and it has also fallen in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

The figures, covering 1990 to 1995, show a population growth rate worldwide of 1.48 per cent a year, significantly lower than the 1.57 per cent projected by a previous report in 1994. The world therefore contains 29 million fewer people than expected.

Fertility has declined over the same period to an average of 2.96 children per woman. The projected figure had been 3.1 children.

By 2050, UN analysts now say, the world's population could be 9.4 billion, nearly half a billion lower than 1994 projections. The current population is 5.77 billion. — New York Times.

Crisis worsens in Africa

PLEASE HELP

The tragedy in Central Africa is growing. Hundreds of thousands of people are in flight from the bloodshed, only to face death by thirst, starvation and disease. ACTIONAID is planning to help by:

- Providing trucks and fuel to transport relief supplies to those in need.
- Rebuilding lives and communities in the longer term.

Please give what you can today to help us relieve the suffering.

Please call our credit card hotline on:

0800 482 400

EMERGENCY EMERGENCY EMERGENCY

Yes, I want to help ACTIONAID help people in Central Africa.

Send a my donation of £200 £100 £50 £25 £10

Make cheques/POs payable to ACTIONAID, and send to ACTIONAID FREEPOST 89088, Chesham, Bucks HP80 1SR.

Or please debit my Visa/MasterCard/Amex Card

No.

Cardholder's name

Address

Postcode

M.

ACTIONAID

News in brief

Iraq 'on verge of food disaster'

WARNING of an imminent food disaster for the poorest Iraqis, a United Nations World Food Programme official said yesterday the condition of some children in hospitals in the sanctions-hit country was comparable to those in Somalia.

Holdbrook Arthur, the WFP director in Iraq, said more than a million Iraqis were almost totally dependent on the UN food distribution system. "If we are not able to support this most vulnerable group... it would be a major disaster... it is pretty imminent." The WFP said its food supplies in Iraq had run out in October. — Reuters, Baghdad.

Police beat Minsk protesters

POLICE and Omon special forces in Belarus clashed with demonstrators in the capital Minsk yesterday during a march protesting against President Alexander Lukashenko's referendum to increase his powers.

Several hundred protesters had broken away from the main group and pushed through police lines towards parliament. Some officers used truncheons unsuccessfully to try to hold demonstrators back. — Reuters, Minsk.

Hizbullah silent about Arad

THE pro-Iranian Hizbullah declined to comment yesterday on a Beirut newspaper report that it had made progress in tracing the missing Israeli navigator Ron Arad, who was shot down over Lebanon in 1986.

The Al-Sharq daily said the German secret service chief Bernd Schmidtbauer was involved in a planned deal to exchange Mr Arad for Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, including the Hizbullah cleric Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid. Germany helped negotiate a big exchange of prisoners and bodies between Hizbullah and Israel in July. — Reuters, Beirut.

Kids Return is another work deftly blending first degree entertainment with second-degree social comment.

The Kitano touch that the Western public expects.

Nick Bornoff on Takeshi Kitano

Arts G2 page 13

How Do You Feel About £10 Worth Of Free Calls?

First Telecom offers international and national calls at up to 60% less than other networks.

Unlike some of our competitors, we can always be relied on for fantastic savings, friendly service and crystal clear connections.

One call from your existing touch tone phone links you to the world's largest and most dependable fibre optic network. There are no connection fees or line rental charges.

And for those of you feeling let down by your existing long distance service provider, here's a special offer to put a smile on your face.

Switch to First Telecom by 30 November 1996 and we'll give you £10 worth of calls FREE OF CHARGE.

FIRST TELECOM

THE FUTURE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

0800 376 6666

The people must decide

A referendum is essential

LABOUR'S weekend change of policy on holding a referendum to join a European single currency means that, for the moment, the two major parties speak as one on this vital question.

A referendum is required for several reasons. The first is that to abandon one's domestic currency is, to put it mildly, a matter of genuine constitutional moment on which the people are entitled to have the final say.

A second referendum has become necessary for the continuation of British membership of the European project. But it is important that it should be the right sort of referendum.

This is the right way to do these things. It ensures that the referendum supports rather than pre-empt the parliamentary process and it makes parliamentary government possible rather than impossible.

Some supporters of the single currency will be shocked by Labour's decision and by the consequent inevitability of a referendum campaign on Europe.

It is greatly to the discredit of several of the other member states of the European Union that they do not take the same approach.

None of the events of the weekend make the possibility that Labour would actually decide to join the single currency in the first wave necessarily stronger.

Speak German

It works wonders for national perception

THE Goethe-Institut's survey of the attitudes of British schoolchildren towards Germany (page 3) tells a compellingly straightforward story.

No piece of national stereotyping does more harm to our country than the British (especially the English) negative obsession with Germany.



Letters to the Editor

Who's getting all the cream?

IT WOULD be an interesting exercise to work out the national hourly rates of pay for the power industry executives who received such massive pay-offs and bonuses last year as a result of take-overs and mergers.

I propose that the Guardian mounts an inquiry to find out precisely who in British industry is against the minimum wage and with this information calculate the ratio by which their individual hourly income exceeds it.

Facing up to a question of faith

ISABEL Hilton overlooks some positive reasons for supporting the proposal to include a question about religious affiliation in the 2001 Census.

Amongst the non-native English, their sense of social solidarity is often grounded at least as much in a sense of common religious affiliation as it is in common ancestry.

English hegemony too often chooses to hide. This enables them to overlook both the existence and the interests of those who differ from themselves.

Throughout the country there are many large, underused ecclesiastical buildings. Even if these places were packed out every Sunday they would be in use for only one or two days a week.

rural areas, just once a month. Churches, temples and religious institutions benefit from generous charity laws and the state contributes in other ways their upkeep.

UNLIKE Isabel Hilton I have no objection to disclosing my religion in the 2001 Census: none (atheist). On the other hand, I deeply resent the 1991 Census revealing what she calls my "ethnic identity" to the leading category, "white".

Time to review the daily grind

IT'S ABSURD of Michael Bogdanov (Enter the director, cursing villains, November 15) to complain about theatre critics who work for newspapers.

Don't read the reviewers. Mr Bogdanov, or get a friend to read them and relay the good bits. You'll live longer and grind your teeth less.

Principles and deselection

THE FACTS of the trial and execution of John Harris 30 years ago in South Africa are had enough without you demonising me by false assertions.

I have just received a letter from NatWest asking for an extra day's interest payment on my mortgage, because 1996 is a leap year.

been an attempt to learn from and make amends for what I did then. I have done this through Anti-Apartheid, through my teaching, my practice of law and my local government service.

Another day [HAVE just received a letter from NatWest asking for an extra day's interest payment on my mortgage, because 1996 is a leap year.]



Sorry, normal service is resumed

SAY WHAT you like about British Gas (Letters, passim) but it is at least even-handed: not only does it disregard telephone calls from humble customers such as myself, it adopts the same cavalier attitude towards Kenneth Clarke by ignoring his assurance that inflation is at its lowest point since heaven knows when.

I had trouble with British Gas and found that the only way to resolve the problem was to go to the top. At the time Cedric Brown was chief executive and after two letters of complaint to him (by registered post) I received a reply from him.

A Country Diary

ACLE, NORFOLK: It was the kind of event that can make driving so hazardous for birds. Eyes fixed on the road ahead, I was suddenly distracted by a murmuration of starlings, which rose like smoke from one side and then fell like a dark blanket on the other.

to pieces in the search for prey. It was a constantly changing, almost mesmerising scene. It suggested the deep, ancient relationships between livestock farming and wildlife.

When I was a mere shadow of his former self

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

BLAME Nigel Lawson. It cannot be coincidence that, within weeks of his post-diet pictures appearing in the newspapers, Chicken Kiev and Black Forest Gateau have come back into culinary fashion.

length from the Despatch Box. But his stature gave him a physical presence that added to his authority.

and a delight to read his examination papers? But now, having turned his healthy mind to the subject of a healthy body, he has come to a conclusion which is unlikely to win him the Nobel Prize for Science.

jawbone. When Lawson was in trouble — the pound worth only a single dollar or Margaret Thatcher angry about shadowing the Deutschmark — I shrank and he swelled to bursting point.

cern with health and longevity. That may have been the motivating force behind the Lawson fasting. But I cannot believe that his insurance rating has been improved by assuming the appearance of St Jerome in El Greco's wilderness.

with another celebrity slimmer. Unfortunately, Lord Archer of Weston-Super-Mare has confessed to a gossip columnist that his attempts to cut himself down to size have not worked.

10 OBITUARIES

Alger Hiss

In the shadows of the cold war

WHEN I last spoke with Alger Hiss, who has died aged 92, we had a terrible row. I had given him, in the strictest confidence, some declassified secret telegrams which I had discovered in the British Public Record Office. They had been sent from the UN to the United States in 1945, some 18 months after the UN became operational. In 1948 Hiss, then flying high as a public servant had been a key organiser of the UN founding conference in San Francisco.



Alger Hiss... sentenced to five years in prison, he made a lifelong crusade out of trying to restore his name.

In the telegrams a picture was painted by British diplomats of an organisation in disarray. On that day in 1944 Hiss had taken the documents and a manuscript of my book on the UN and organised for them to be read to him, for he was almost blind by then. Some days later I received a telephone call. It was Hiss. In icy tones, he told me I was in possession of documents I should never have been allowed to see. For that American patriot, I suppose, with the end of the Cold War the United Nations was finally about to work perfectly, as he, one of its founders, had intended. The material from half a century ago told the wrong story. Yes, he was old, but the tone was one of certainty, for it came from a man who, but for fate, was tipped for the as a future US secretary of State.

Fate had taken the form of Whittaker Chambers. A sometime editor at Time magazine, and self-confessed 1930s Communist, it was Chambers who in August 1948 claimed before a House Un-American Activities committee (HUAC) hearing that, a decade before Hiss had been an active member of the Communist Party. He had, said Chambers, passed State Department documents to him as a member of the

communist underground. By December 1948 Chambers was leading investigators from HUAC to his farm where films of Hiss and his wife, Elizabeth, were discovered. Allegedly provided by Hiss, had been placed in a hollowed-out pumpkin. At the moment of his accusation, Hiss issued a writ for defamation. The US Statute of Limitations prevented an espionage charge and by December 1948 Hiss was accused of perjury for having persisted in denials under oath. His first trial opened at the end of May 1949 and resulted in a hung jury that July. Three months later Hiss was back on trial and on January 21 1950 Hiss was found guilty on two counts of lying to a grand jury about his ties to the Soviet Union and was sentenced to five years in prison.

of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, the defection of the British diplomats Burgess and Maclean, the Eastern European show trials — which marked the permafrost of the Cold War. It also inaugurated the red-baiting era of Senator Joseph McCarthy and provided the catalyst that propelled Richard Nixon towards the vice-presidency on the winning Republican ticket in 1952. Alger Hiss was born in Baltimore. His father committed suicide when he was two, a fact he was unaware of until he was 10 years old. After Johns Hopkins University, he attended Harvard Law School, graduated in 1929, and worked for supreme court justice Oliver Wendell Holmes before moving to Boston and New York. With the election of

Franklin Roosevelt to the presidency in 1932 he headed for Washington, joining the State Department in 1936. There was no dispute between Chambers and Hiss that they had met at that time. For Hiss, looking back, Chambers had been "an unkempt, struggling freelance journalist" with bad teeth, strapped for



Alger Hiss... sentenced to five years in prison, he made a lifelong crusade out of trying to restore his name.

cash, while Chambers remembered the friendship of two literate members of the middle class. The surface reality was very much the patriotic and the pathetic hanger-on. By the end of the decade the relationship had withered. By the spring of 1944 Hiss was a member of a team created by Roosevelt to plan a post-war new world order and the executive secretary of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference which produced the UN charter blueprint. Hiss was one of the key advisers on the UN at the Yalta conference, later becoming director of the State Department's office of special political affairs. It was Hiss who brought the original copy of the Charter to the UN at the Yalta conference, later becoming director of the State Department's office of special political affairs. It was Hiss who brought the original copy of the Charter to the UN at the Yalta conference, later becoming director of the State Department's office of special political affairs. It was Hiss who brought the original copy of the Charter to the UN at the Yalta conference, later becoming director of the State Department's office of special political affairs.

changed. The Hiss case provides an example of how one "revelation" can cancel another and Volkogonov later withdrew his blanket claim that "not a single document" had been found to implicate Hiss. There are real problems confronting those who seek to show that he was innocent. Hiss once promised to show how his accuser Whittaker Chambers carried out forgery by typewriter — all the parolined and microfilmed State Department documents produced at the two trials were typed on the celebrated Woodstock 230099 which Hiss and his wife Priscilla owned in 1938 when he worked for State Department. The chief basis for Hiss's conviction was expert testimony on this typewriter evidence. Hiss's death is by no means the last chapter of the story. General Volkogonov's acknowledgement that he was in no position to clear Hiss, and that perhaps no one ever can,

Helen Rosenthal East End poetry

TEACHING Bangladeshi and white working-class children, at Columbia Road primary school in London's East End, Helen Rosenthal, who has died of cancer aged 47, was initially shocked by the parents' sense of the outside world. It was not an exciting place to be explored with the help of teachers, but a threatening force from which teachers should protect their children. Neither educational theory nor parental demands for discipline and the 3Rs seemed to offer anything that would strengthen and shape the children's spirited intelligence. Then Helen hit on poetry — and later described building "a culture of poetry in the classrooms" in *Introducing Poetry in Language Matters* magazine. Helen worked with people who were confronting poverty, language barriers, and ill-health. She did so within public health and education, displaying sensitivity, creativity and commitment. Her first London job was as an administrator of home dialysis for St Leonard's hospital, and she became vice-chair of the City and Hackney Community Health Council.



Helen Rosenthal... A creativity that flowered and commitment to public service

and co-directed with Fedelma Winkler the Greater London Association of Community Health Councils. The association was one of those hopeful ideas that organisation would endow local health work with clout and strategy. Together, Winkler and Helen Rosenthal wrote about health campaigning for the women's self-help health book, *Our Bodies Our Selves*. Helen had by this time married David Sloan, a general practitioner, and had two children, Jack and May. They comprised a formidable nucleus of musical talent and of commitment to working-class east London. She stood as a Communist candidate for the Greater London Council — representing less the party than her own blend of socialism, feminism, community politics and impatience with pompous and self-aggrandising public servants. Some of these values were embedded in the influential article she wrote about neighbourhood projects in which she identified local health campaigns and community health workers as vital to successful health projects. She could have developed a lucrative career in professional health management in the quangoising health service — but returned as a primary school teacher instead, and thus went on to Columbia Road. Helen was the daughter of Phyllis and Harold Rosenthal — who founded and edited *Opera* magazine. A talented singer and pianist, she studied music with Wilfred Mellors at York University, but, since she couldn't be a performer of the first rank, she preferred to keep music as a "luxurious" area of her life. She was a volunteer in a punitive girls' approved school at the beginning of her life. Much was made of the way, unlike on previous occasions,

Neville Robinson

Ingenuity in the lab

NEVILLE Robinson who has died aged 71 was a physicist of all-round talent, a first-rate mathematician who delighted in the construction of ingenious circuits and devices at the bench and a man of great intellectual power and scientific expertise. Born in Shropshire educated at the Leys School and Christ's College, Cambridge where he read physics, Robinson was a scientific officer at the Atomic Energy Research Laboratory from 1945 to 1950. There he became acquainted with microwave and electronic techniques developed during the war. He met Rudolf Kompfner, from Oxford's Clarendon Laboratory, who suggested that he should move there for his doctorate. Neville spent the rest of his life in Oxford, eventually becoming university senior research officer and tutor in physics at the Clarendon Laboratory. He spent substantial periods in the United States, at the Bell Telephone Laboratories and the University of California, Berkeley, where he became established as a valued consultant, but he always returned to Oxford. In later years he turned to the study of non-linear systems, where he combined his considerable mathematical ability with the simulation of non-linear behaviour by ingenious electronic circuits. These he constructed himself in a laboratory overflowing with a stock of components adequate for many more decades of experimentation. All Neville's interests outside the laboratory, were pursued, characteristically, with near-perfection in mind. His instrument was the clarinet, sadly neglected in his busy later years; he was a sound judge of wine, describing its virtues in understandable terms. Although he despised bureaucracy and the stifling influence of administration, he was an efficient and effective committee man; refreshingly, he was equally at home on his college high table and on his allotment raising vegetables. He retired from his university and college posts in 1986, but continued working until his death on his way to a consultancy in Strasbourg. He leaves his wife, Daphne, two daughters and a son, and countless good friends.

Birthdays

Margaret Atwood, novelist, 57; James Barrington, director, Wildlife Network, 41; John Boulter, former Olympic runner, 56; the Rt Rev Dewi Bridges, Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, 63; Anthony Coombs, Conservative MP, 44; Prof Charles Cowan, former director, School of Oriental and African Studies, 78; Linda Evans, actress, 52; Bill Giles, meteorologist, 57; David Hemmings, actor, director, 55; John Hosler, actor, Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, 68; Michael Kustow, arts entrepreneur, former director, ICA, 57; Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, 78; Alan Shepard, US astronaut, 73; Sir Tasker Watkins VC, president, Welsh Rugby Union, 78; Kim Wylie, pop singer, 36.

Death Notices

SCHWARZ, Mary on the 14th November 1996, aged 82. Loving and devoted wife of Victor, mother of Elizabeth and daughter of Olive and Richard. Buried at St. Paul's Church, London. Family notices in the Standard on Wednesday 20th November at 2.00pm. No flowers. Donations if desired to the British Red Cross. Burial on Saturday November 14 at 11.30am. No flowers. Funeral Service, Southampton 0915-42 0818.

Memorial Services

PROFESSOR NEVILLE ROBINSON. Memorial service to be held at the London University School of Oriental and African Studies, Northampton St, Russell Square, WC1N 3AP, on Saturday November 14 at 11.30am. No flowers. Donations if desired to the British Red Cross. Burial on Saturday November 14 at 11.30am. No flowers. Funeral Service, Southampton 0915-42 0818.

Jackdaw



Hammed lines

YODASEZ, "Spam ate I! I did I become! Toss my cookies did I!" Coupon freaks on SPAM high try to peel the painted label off the can. Yelstin's fast rebound comes from an old Russian treat: SPAM and vodka float. "Bring us some Figgy Pudding!" Scream you! Lump of coal, Spam is all you get! Great lunch for the trail. It might even be road food.

Road food a la mode.

Gelatinous SPAM. Simply oozes from the can — Nauseatingly. I SPAM, you SPAM, we All SPAM to below-level, Minus-O Gourmands. It's food for the mind. And it's food for the soul. It slips in my bowl. From an enormous collection of Spam Hukka found at www.natic.edu/~jcho/spam/arc.htm. William Kerr.

Shoe size

RUSSIAN Women: Do they make good wives? There are a number of agencies that will provide almost any American man with a female in Russia who wants to come to America. After a few letters and telephone conversations one is usually ready to bring the Russian lady to America. If all is OK, one often gets married within a month or two of the arrival of the lady in America (or day or two). The cost of a round trip ticket varies from about \$1,500

Stones throw

HOWEVER appalling the circumstances, there are nearly always things to admire in people's actions. Take the recent violence in Israel and the Occupied Territories. Scenes of young men being carried away, injured and dying, were terrible. But the most hardened soldier, the most bigoted settler even prime minister Netanyahu himself, would have to concede one thing to the Palestinians, namely that excellent stone-throwers they are. Much was made of the way, unlike on previous occasions,

Hollyweird

JOHN Wayne once won Lassie in a game of poker. When Elvis Presley was in the eighth grade, his teacher said he showed little promise as a singer. To get her to cry in film stars, directors would tell child star Shirley Temple lies about her pet animals being dead. The menstrual cycles of MGM actresses used to be carefully plotted on charts so filming schedules could be planned around them. Alfred Hitchcock loved train timetables so much that he used to memorize them. Steven Spielberg was regarded as a wimp at school. His nickname was "The Retard". Errol Flynn was a spy for the Nazis during World War II. Maurice Chevalier learned to speak English in a German POW camp. The horse's head used in The Godfather was real. The amply-endowed Jane Russell had twin peaks in Alaska named after her. Tarzan's yell was made up from a blend of a camel's bleat, a hyena's yowl and a plucked violin. Charlie Chaplin once came

Escorte

only third in a Charlie Chaplin lookalike contest. On Peter Ustinov's first application to enter the US, he described his colour as "Pink". When the Ku Klux Klan appeared on her show, Oprah Winfrey asked them if they'd be interested in having lunch afterwards. Brigitte Nielsen started sending Sylvester Stallone fan letters when she was only 11 and later deserted a husband and son in Denmark to be with him. After Reagan saw Rambo he said he US hostages held in Lebanon. "I now know what to do the next time this happens". Everything you wanted to know about Hollywood and less. From the humour list-server thanks to Caitlin Goloup. Jackdaw wants Jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Emily Sheffield

سكى من الامم

ELECTION BATTLEGROUND/Voters' real concerns are reflected on silver screen



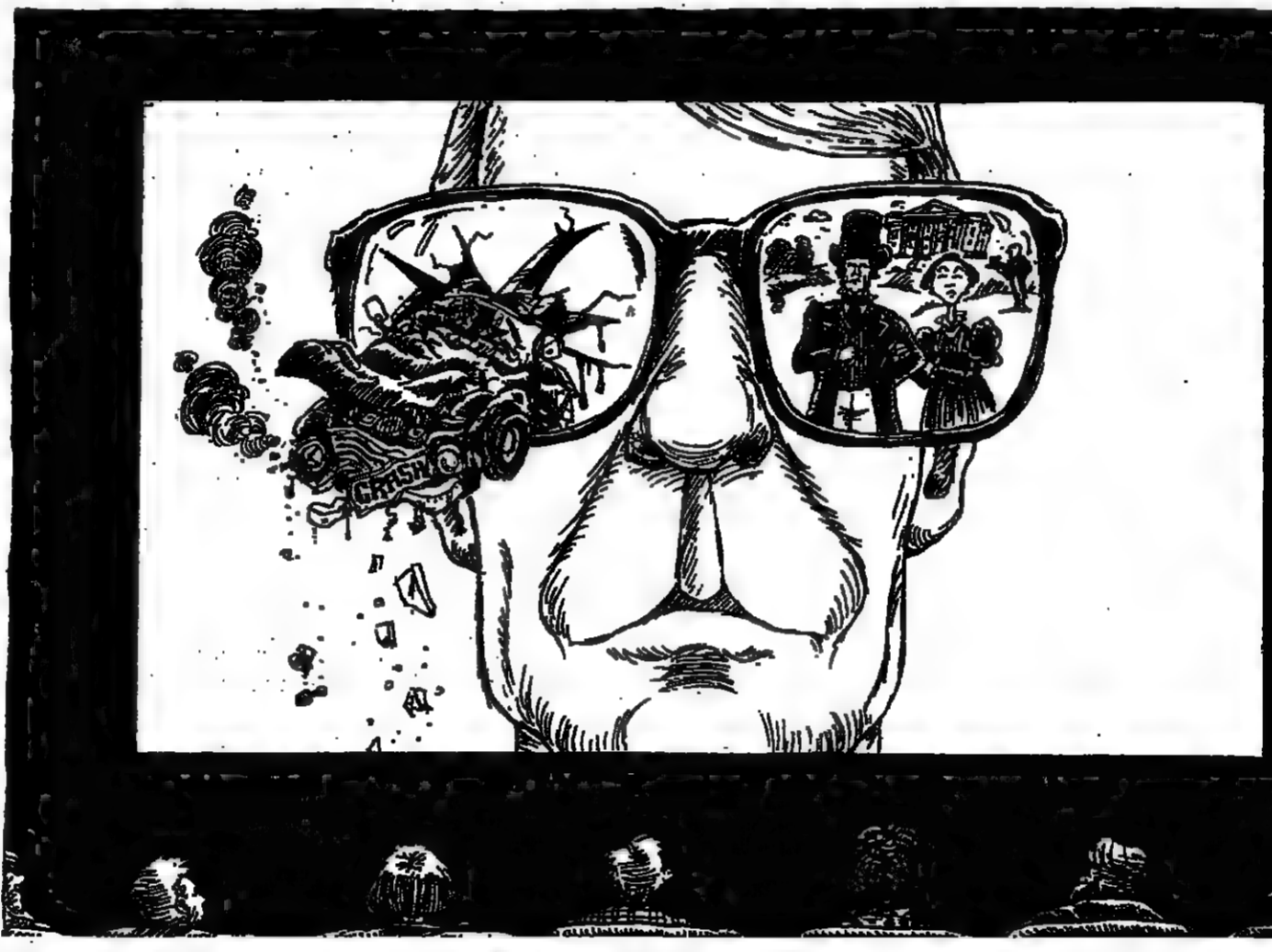
Changing the script from Austin to Austen



Larry Elliott

WHEN people go to the pictures, economics is normally the last thing on their minds. Traditionally, they have sat in the stalls to forget about the real world...

vidualism was encouraged by the car, the suburb and the television. Now move on to the present day. Anybody skimming through the TV schedules for any random week would find drama output dominated by nurses, police and people prancing about in period costume...



spending round and John Major feels the need to commit himself to real-terms increases in NHS spending for the next five years.

Mr Dorrell's good fortune cannot, however, disguise the fact that politicians are finding it increasingly difficult to draw together the strands of a polyglot culture and turn them into a sellable political message.

organised religion and made the agents of social change — TV, satellite communications, the PII — available to all.

archy, and fixed values to an era of multiplying viewpoints and jealously levelled standards; from a naive world of patient deferral and measurable progress to a greedy simultaneity of sound-bite, news and thought-bite politics; from an empty and fruit-

don Johnson's Great Society, let alone the Eisenhower years of plenty. Indeed, De Niro's Travis Bickle was a foretaste of a social problem to come — the angry, alienated, unskilled young man who feels that the world no longer has a place for him.

Any new moral framework will not have been imposed from above but people will have worked it out for themselves



Paramount direction at the box office

BRIEFING/The strategy behind marketing movies and gauging audience response. RICHARD THOMAS looks at Murphy's Law

THIS week, studio executives from Paramount Pictures are anxiously waiting to see whether the film First Wives Club will achieve the smash-hit status in Britain it managed in America.

mass of people into the cinema, then the information cascade is at least going to start. Hence the demand for bankable stars. No one would touch Forrest Gump until Tom Hanks agreed to do it.

The distributors also use geography to gauge and react to demand, testing films like The Piano in certain areas before going national.

But there is one set of rules — the Paramount Consent Decree — which reduces flexibility by barring any distributor from owning cinemas, and this makes it harder to give lesser-known films a long

Arnold Schwarzenegger's first film, Pumping Iron, took time to catch on, opening at number 44 in the movie charts, before climbing to 18 and ranking in the 20s for some weeks, as the graph indicates. It was not a huge earner — but it was a much bigger success than anticipated — and the distributors widened circulation and extended the run in response.

Having said that, a slight tilt in the dons' favour is entirely understandable — if only because their critics have bombarded us yet again with the most predictable and ad-est ad nauseam complaint of all time: that Britain has an "anti-business culture".

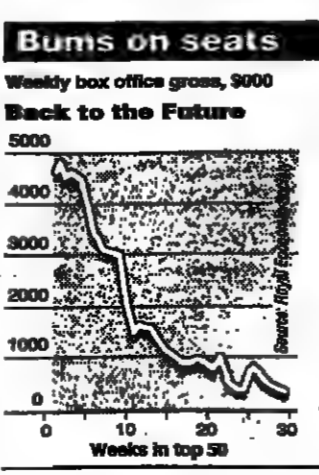
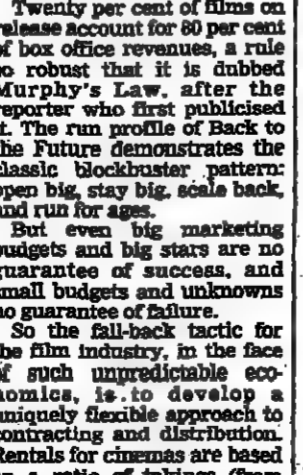
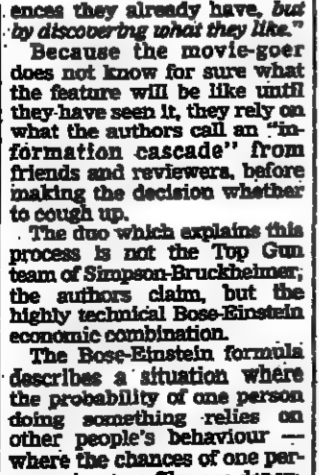


Table with 4 columns: Country, Rate, Country, Rate. Includes Australia 2.04, Austria 17.17, Belgium 20.26, Canada 2.1770, Cyprus 0.74, Denmark 9.47, Finland 7.48, France 8.23, Germany 2.4425, Greece 388.00, Hong Kong 12.57, India 59.54, Ireland 13.9775, Israel 5.38, Italy 2.485, Malta 0.5785, Netherlands 2.742, New Zealand 2.27, Norway 10.27, Portugal 247.80, Saudi Arabia 6.21, Singapore 2.28, South Africa 7.38, Spain 205.40, Sweden 10.58, Switzerland 2.05, Turkey 156.840, USA 1.8300.

Table with 2 columns: Indicator, Date. Includes UK: PSBR (Oct), GBR: Producer Prices (Oct), TOMORROW: US: Housing Starts (Oct), WEDNESDAY: UK: Retail Sales (Oct), UK: Building Societies (Oct), UK: Provisional M4 (Nov), UK: M4 Lending (Oct), USA: International Trade (Sep), THURSDAY: GBR: Bundesbank Council Meeting, UK: GDP Expenditure (Q3), FRIDAY: UK: CBI Monthly Trends Survey (Nov), FR: Industrial Production (Sep), GBR: Import Prices (Oct), Source: NSCC Markets Ltd.

Yes please, more anti-business

Worm's eye Dan Atkinson

WATCHING the great Walfie Said v Oxford dons dust-up induces that wonderful, warm feeling that can only come from the deep-rooted conviction that — as in the debate on fox-hunting or the "McLibel" trial — both sides richly deserve one another.

And since? More — much, much more — of the same. The awful truth is that our manically pro-business culture is the real cause of decline, and only a full-blooded anti-business stance can save us. Just this once, up the Dons.

12 SPORTS NEWS

Racing

McGregor a natural for Aintree

Chris Hawkhins

McGREGOR THE THIRD scored his second successive victory in the Sporting Index Cross Country Chase at Cheltenham yesterday...

This victory meant a 4lb penalty for the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury, but he still has only 10st 2lb and looks thrown in, although Richards warned that he will not run if the going is fast...

But Nicky Richards, representing his father Gordon, who trains the winner, did not seem to share the general enthusiasm. "He's a star in this sort of race, but you need a bit of class to win the National these days and he might just lack a bit of speed," said Richards.

Flora Whitaker, the owner, is all in favour of a tilt at the National, but will leave the decision to the trainer. "He's a brilliant jumper and very clever when he was ridden by my daughter Joanna," said Mrs Whitaker, whose Grand National winner Lucius died last January at the age of 26.

"I don't think the Aintree fences would bother him, but it's up to Gordon," she added. McGregor The Third led at the 19th and jumped the remaining 11 obstacles, including the ditch and bank, with his ears pricked and clearly enjoying every moment.

Irish Stunt, runner-up in the Velka Pardubicka, threatened briefly turning for home, but Brian Harding had only to shake up his mount to quicken away for a comfortable win.

On Saturday at Ayr, Richards, arguably the best trainer of steeplechasers in the country, sent out The Grey Monk to stretch his unbeaten run over fences to seven.

Time enough made just two small mistakes, but otherwise negotiated the obstacles with great accuracy and economy, testimony to the skill of Yogi Breisner, who has had the horse for eight days trying to straighten out his jumping.

Breisner advised a rubber hit and a drop nose-band to keep Time Enough's head up. It certainly seemed to work. On a bleak afternoon a crowd of 9,724 was a respectable attendance and most of them were on their feet in the opening event as Handicap produced an incredible finish



Falling double... McGregor The Third sets a hot pace on his way to winning the Sporting Index Cross Country Chase for the second year running. PHOTO: PHIL COLE

to make up 20 lengths on the run-in and catch Robert's Toy, who looked home and holed in the final strides.

Martin Pipe, trainer of the runner-up, had no trouble accepting this reverse after the thrilling victory of Challenger du Luc in Saturday's Murphy's Gold Cup.

Richard Dunwoody, riding at his lightest, had to bring all his expertise to bear to get the horse was injured.

This left Strong Promise in front, but as Challenger du Luc loomed up at the last it looked all over. But young Gaule got a great run out of Strong Promise and, though beaten, won plenty of friends with his finishing effort.

Challenger du Luc took the race in his stride and when Pipe phoned the stables yesterday morning after celebrating most of the night at the Murphy's Champions dinner he was told that the horse had eaten up well.

"As he seems to have come out of the race so well I've got to think about the Hennessy now," said Pipe. "The extra distance shouldn't be a problem as he's finished second over three miles."

As a result Coral has slipped Challenger du Luc into their Hennessy betting at 12-1.

with Dunwoody at the end of the 1996 season, commented: "Richard was brilliant. This race had been the plan since last season, but the plan didn't include the photo-finish."

Challenger du Luc took the race in his stride and when Pipe phoned the stables yesterday morning after celebrating most of the night at the Murphy's Champions dinner he was told that the horse had eaten up well.

"As he seems to have come out of the race so well I've got to think about the Hennessy now," said Pipe. "The extra distance shouldn't be a problem as he's finished second over three miles."

As a result Coral has slipped Challenger du Luc into their Hennessy betting at 12-1.

with Dunwoody at the end of the 1996 season, commented: "Richard was brilliant. This race had been the plan since last season, but the plan didn't include the photo-finish."

Challenger du Luc took the race in his stride and when Pipe phoned the stables yesterday morning after celebrating most of the night at the Murphy's Champions dinner he was told that the horse had eaten up well.

"As he seems to have come out of the race so well I've got to think about the Hennessy now," said Pipe. "The extra distance shouldn't be a problem as he's finished second over three miles."

As a result Coral has slipped Challenger du Luc into their Hennessy betting at 12-1.

Leicester with form guide

- 12.55 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

- 1.25 Stoughton Handicap (10) 11.15-12.00 1.25 Peter Mansfield 1.50 Signet Star

to make up 20 lengths on the run-in and catch Robert's Toy, who looked home and holed in the final strides.

Martin Pipe, trainer of the runner-up, had no trouble accepting this reverse after the thrilling victory of Challenger du Luc in Saturday's Murphy's Gold Cup.

Richard Dunwoody, riding at his lightest, had to bring all his expertise to bear to get the horse was injured.

This left Strong Promise in front, but as Challenger du Luc loomed up at the last it looked all over. But young Gaule got a great run out of Strong Promise and, though beaten, won plenty of friends with his finishing effort.

Challenger du Luc took the race in his stride and when Pipe phoned the stables yesterday morning after celebrating most of the night at the Murphy's Champions dinner he was told that the horse had eaten up well.

"As he seems to have come out of the race so well I've got to think about the Hennessy now," said Pipe. "The extra distance shouldn't be a problem as he's finished second over three miles."

As a result Coral has slipped Challenger du Luc into their Hennessy betting at 12-1.

with Dunwoody at the end of the 1996 season, commented: "Richard was brilliant. This race had been the plan since last season, but the plan didn't include the photo-finish."

Challenger du Luc took the race in his stride and when Pipe phoned the stables yesterday morning after celebrating most of the night at the Murphy's Champions dinner he was told that the horse had eaten up well.

"As he seems to have come out of the race so well I've got to think about the Hennessy now," said Pipe. "The extra distance shouldn't be a problem as he's finished second over three miles."

As a result Coral has slipped Challenger du Luc into their Hennessy betting at 12-1.

Southwell (All-weather Flat)

- 12.15 Leading Prices 12.45 Southwell 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

Drugs in sport

Wonder drug banned

BROMANTAN, the new wonder drug used by Russian competitors at the Atlanta Olympic Games, has been added to the list of banned substances...

Gillingham thought he would be awarded the bronze medal in the 200 metres breaststroke after the Russian Andrei Kornev, who finished third, was disqualified following a positive drugs test for bromantan.

Kornev was one of five Russians suspended for taking the drug originally developed to keep Red Army troops alert in Afghanistan. But Gillingham lost his medal after all the Russians were cleared when the International Olympic Committee's initial bans were overturned after an arbitration panel decided the drug was not banned.

The panel, however, described the circumstances surrounding the use of bromantan as "suspicious", adding that scientific papers in Russian would "reasonably lead a scientist reader to the conclusion that the substance possessed stimulant qualities."

Yesterday, at its meeting in Cancun, Mexico, the IOC declared officially that bromantan is illegal because it can act as both a stimulant and masking agent for other banned substances, such as anabolic steroids. It will be added to the list of prohibited substances from February 1.

Dr Don Catlin, who is in charge of steroid-testing in Atlanta, revealed at the weekend that at least four positive drugs tests for steroids at the Games have still to be published by the IOC.

Plumpton runners and riders

- 1.05 Plumpton 1.45 Plumpton 2.05 Plumpton

- 1.05 Plumpton 1.45 Plumpton 2.05 Plumpton

- 1.05 Plumpton 1.45 Plumpton 2.05 Plumpton

- 1.05 Plumpton 1.45 Plumpton 2.05 Plumpton

- 1.05 Plumpton 1.45 Plumpton 2.05 Plumpton

- 1.05 Plumpton 1.45 Plumpton 2.05 Plumpton

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

- 1.15 Day Star 1.45 Day Star

Four for Frankie FRANKIE DESTORI continued his phenomenal strike rate in Italy by following up his three wins in Rome last Sunday with another four from his five rides at the Capannelle course yesterday.

سكنا من الاجل



Horsepower and manpower... Challenger Du Lac lifts the Murphy's Gold Cup, Paul Ince equalises for Inter Milan against Fiorentina, Alain Penard gives Laneli's Stephen Ford the turnaround, and Phil McCallen wins the Macan Grand Prix

Weekend results

Soccer

FA Cup

First round
Aston Villa vs Brentford
Derby County vs Colchester United
Preston North End vs Carlisle United

FA Caring Premiership

Aston Villa 1-1 Brentford
Derby County 1-0 Colchester United
Preston North End 1-0 Carlisle United

Bell's Scottish League

Premier Division
Aberdeen vs Dundee United
Dundee vs Celtic
Celtic vs Rangers

GM Conference

Table with 5 columns: Club, P, W, D, L, A, Pts. Lists various football clubs and their league positions.

Rugby Union

Levensham Cup
Northampton vs Bath
Bristol vs Exeter

Rugby League

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE
St Helens vs Wakefield
Wigan vs Hull

NATIONAL LEAGUE

First Division
Cardiff City vs Gillingham
Fulham vs Luton

Motor Racing

Macan Grand Prix
Phil McCallen wins
Alain Penard gives Stephen Ford the turnaround

Real Tennis

WITNESS OPEN
First round results
Second round results

Cricket

Yorkshire vs Lancashire
Somerset vs Gloucestershire
Surrey vs Essex

Swimming

Scottish Open
Aberdeen vs Dundee
Glasgow vs Edinburgh

Fixtures

Football
Rugby
Motor Racing
Real Tennis
Cricket
Swimming

SOCCER

Premiership: Newcastle United 1, West Ham United 1

Keegan flaunts fatal attraction

David Hopps WEST HAM did not just score a goal at St James' Park...

ers such as David Ginola and Keith Gillespie, Newcastle's manager is gambling on an astounding degree...

candour, does not just concede the risk, he flaunts it. "I will take full responsibility for the goal," he said...

partnership. Shearer's absence after a groin operation is now compounded by Ferdinand's cheek-bone fracture...

'Gascoigne stays' rebuff for Kendall

Ian Ross and Patrick Glenn

SHEFFIELD UNITED have failed in an audacious attempt to lure Paul Gascoigne back to English football...

the Old Firm match at Celtic Park last Thursday night he looked like a man lying on the counselling couch...



Net profit ... Robinson's side-footed effort nestles in the corner of the Newcastle Town goal, bringing as much relief as delight to struggling Notts County

Besieged Murphy wins battle but not war

Paul Fitzpatrick sees Notts County's 2-0 win against the other Newcastle fail to pacify restless fans at Stoke's Victoria Ground

THE romance of the Cup was certainly not uppermost in the mind of Colin Murphy at the Victoria Ground yesterday...

through the final half-hour. Not that the fans were pacified. The chants of "Murphy out, we want Murphy out" echoed until the end...

Australia yet to get Venables

TERRY VENABLES is still the favourite to take over as Australia's coach. But David Hill, the chairman of Australia's soccer federation...

Premiership: Wimbledon 2, Coventry City 2

Whelan turns the tide

Russell Thomas GORDON STRACHAN spent the entire 90 minutes at Selhurst Park...

chan, filled with the newfound confidence demonstrated by his team after the catalyst of Whelan's wonderous goal...

Leeds United 0, Liverpool 2

Liverpool less than perfect

Alan Lyons ACCORDING to the philosophy of Roy Evans, perfection is a nebulous and unattainable emotion...

against opposition with more attacking power than the willing head of Deane and the desperation of a slowing Rush...

Good-bye battery



Welcome to the future: Seiko Kinetic, the first quartz watch that turns your movement into power. Every move you make is converted into electrical impulses by a tiny built-in powerhouse...

16

Five pages of sport

Euro boost
Man United get
a lift for Juventus
and Champions
League

14

'Gascoigne stays'
Sheffield United
fails to lure
Gazza back into
English soccer

15

SportsExtra

SOCCER

Premiership: Derby 2, Middlesbrough 1

Misfit back as Boro misfire



Found and lost... the prodigal Emerson watches from the stand while Juninho, his Brazilian international colleague, proves a pushover for Yates as Middlesbrough's miserable week ended in defeat at Derby yesterday PHOTOGRAPH: SIMON BELLIS



Rugby Union

Heineken European Cup, quarter-finals: Cardiff 22, Bath 19

Bath's pride exits on the wings of a Cardiff chorus

Robert Armstrong

THE shock-waves of Bath's exit from the Heineken European Cup on the wings of a rousing Cardiff chorus of Broad of Heaven will reverberate throughout England and Wales for months to come. While unjustly-maligned Leicester continued to fly the flag in Europe, Bath, the standard-bearers of new-age rugby, have been peremptorily despatched along with the vaunted London clubs, Harlequins and Wasps, who also sought to play a dynamic 15-man game in their first season in the competition.

According to John Hall, their director of rugby, Bath will "take stock" of a knock-out blow that will cost them up to £500,000 before deciding on measures to achieve consistent results. So far Bath have suffered three defeats in the league in addition to their devastating away-days in Pontypridd and Cardiff. That series of set-backs constitutes a genuine crisis for the club who in recent memory have never slipped so badly in the early months of the season. Bath's claim to be "the best club in Europe" had already become an all-but-forgone conclusion because their game plan looked naive against other elite opponents. Hall admitted his post-mortem will focus strongly on "how we use possession", the crucial aspect of Bath's play that exposed their inability to turn pressure into points. For much of the game Cardiff carefully shepherded the English champions into the harmless areas of the field where they found it difficult to unleash their strike-runners, notwithstanding a good

supply of ball. Bath's only try by the flanker Nathan Thomas was not scored until the closing minutes. Once again searching questions were asked of Mike Catt that the Bath and England fly-half struggled to answer. In sharp contrast to Cardiff's Jonathan Davies, who often stretched the Bath defence with astute punting, Catt seemed to have no coherent overview of his basic pivotal duties and instead favoured flashy miss-passes or risky breaks that were quickly smothered. The impression persists that Catt's true position is really inside-centre. Bath's imminent signing of Steve Atherton, the South African Test lock who will join his Natal team-mate Federico Mendez at the Rec, may be a sound long-term investment but that acquisition does not address the immediate problem of how Bath intend to turn the screw on opponents from behind the scrum. Second-rate sides such as Bristol, who recently conceded 10 tries at the Rec, may have lulled Bath into a false sense of their own attacking capability.

Arguably, Hall's decision to leave out his key goalkicker Jonathan Callard left Bath no insurance policy once it became apparent that the Cardiff line was not for crossing. Catt did kick 11 points but crucially he failed with three penalties, any one of which might ultimately have taken the game into extra-time had it gone over. Near the end Ian Sanders's decision to run a penalty looked foolhardy. Frequent changes in personnel have probably contributed to Bath's loss of cohesion on major occasions, conveying the message that the management believe tactical shortcomings can be remedied by bringing in fresh



Jonathan Davies kicks into touch PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID JONES

faces. Hall has created a tricky problem, having assembled a quality squad of around 40 players, most of whom believe they should be first-team regulars. Bath have become a club without a recognisable line-up. Terry Holmes, the Cardiff coach, may have been unduly modest when he said the leading Welsh clubs had proved they could compete on equal terms with their English counterparts. On Saturday Cardiff, with inspirational characters like Jonathan Humphreys and Robert Howley, looked capable

of beating any side in Britain and most of those in France too, Nigel Walker clinching Cardiff's semi-final place with a marvellous opportunist try just before the hour, courtesy of a slick pass by Davies. Bath contrived to make the scoreline a bit more respectable with their late try but, in truth, nothing could soften this massive blow to their pride and reputation. As Holmes pointed out, Toulouse are the only club who can say they are the best in Europe because they actually won the cup last season.

Bitter Derby day for Emerson

Martin Thorpe

EMERSON finally arrived back in Britain on Saturday night, 72 hours late. After all the worry about his whereabouts and intentions, Bryan Robson might now be wishing the Brazilian had stayed away two more days. For Emerson immediately received a sharp reminder of the main reason he wants to leave Middlesbrough: a bitterly cold, drizzly afternoon at a ramshackle Baseball Ground, and another defeat that takes Boro's points tally to just two from their last seven league games. She Who Must Be Obeyed, Mrs Emerson, has remained in Rio, unwilling to swap the Copacabana for the Tees. One might have thought she was describing a Transylvanian castle when she said of her

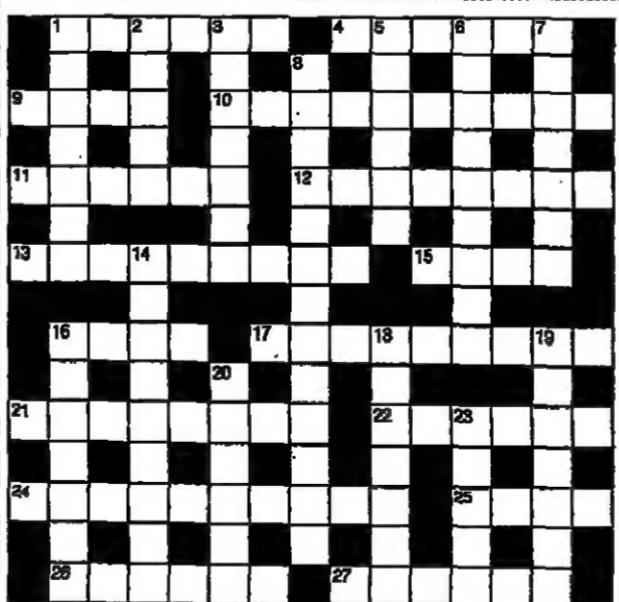
first trip outside Brazil: "The moment I saw Middlesbrough I felt it was a strange, terrible place. It seemed so dark and quiet outside and it was always windy and raining." Robson refused to speak to the press after the game but it is understood he will hold talks with Emerson aimed at a compromise whereby the player can leave for warmer climes at the end of the season. Quite how Andrea can be persuaded to return is unclear, bar bringing forward global warming, making Portuguese the national language and shipping in the extended family she so misses. With reports suggesting that Ravanelli and Juninho are also unsettled, Robson faces the biggest test of his fledgling managerial career. Robson yesterday saw a combination of the Derby goalkeeper Russell Hoult and his woodwork — and the referee's inability to spot a handful of

what the manager described as "blatant" penalties — deny Boro a win their greater style and invention deserved. Derby got the breaks and the goals that mattered. The first half divided into two parts, the 15 minutes before Derby scored their first goal, and the 30 minutes following it, when they struggled to string even one pass together as Boro dominated possession without creating many chances. The goal was fair reward for Derby's chirpier start, and was scored by their most influential player going forward, the Croatian midfielder Asanovic. From the right Ward fired a cross into the Boro area, its speed forcing Cox to fluff his clearance. The ball fell to the hovering Asanovic, who drilled home from about eight yards. The gleeful Derby fans immediately launched into a chant of "He's going home, Emerson's going home."

Yates had already gone close for Derby and Juninho and Beck provided two frights for Hoult. But the goal joined Boro and, as if a sturp of WD-40 had finally loosened a rusty mechanism, their passing game sprang to life. However, for all the precision passes and free-running midfield, Boro were restricted to two attempts on goal in that opening half. Ravanelli's 25-yard free-kick was acrobatically tipped over by Hoult. In first-half injury-time Derby almost scored when Cox cleared off the line from Dailly, but if that came as a surprise it turned out to be a portent as, 90 seconds after the break, Derby extended their lead. Eventually a Boro player did find the back of the right net, Ravanelli taking his season's tally to 14 goals with a header from Fleming's cross. It summed up Boro's season so far: stylish intentions ending with anti-climax.

Guardian Crossword No 20,813

Set by Crispa

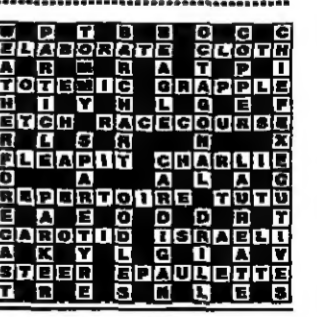


- Across**
- 1 Refinement of language (6)
 - 4 Pleasurable activities for good losers (6)
 - 9 To speak other than plainly is considered an affront (4)
 - 10 A racket fought with foreign money (10)
 - 11 Hurt that makes a mother mature (6)
 - 12 The girl's fortune personified (6)
 - 13 The memorial constituents had seen to (9)
 - 15 Some are too slow for the city (4)
 - 16 Beats top gear (4)
 - 17 Capital's initial value (5-4)
 - 21 The person soliciting articles by outside ring (8)
 - 22 Guarantee for a vessel going by river (6)
 - 24 Agreeing on scent — it's to be used (10)

WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 20,806
This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are R. A. Broughton of London, SW16, E. C. Hewitt of Wareham, Dorset, James Reeve of Westwich, Manchester, R. H. and E. E. Simpson of Penryn Bay, Lancashire, and Stuart Tiffin of Cockermouth, Cumbria.

25 A certain police division could get really acrimonious (4)
26 A steed, when properly treated, is not fiery (6)
27 Guileful Oriental dramatist (6)

- Down**
- 1 Feel a friend should accompany the husband (7)
 - 2 The Chancellor's nationality includes the woman (5)
 - 3 A national topic of conversation (7)
 - 5 Exercise quits a bit before a game (6)
 - 6 Note written on furniture restorer (6)
 - 7 Blast! The Italians don't like it (7)
 - 8 Judges unsatisfactory a diner's tip that is small (13)
 - 14 Newsmen at the heart of the action can appear dispirited (6)
 - 16 Rich, firm, and very good (7)



- 16 Broadcast of TT races results (7)
- 19 One of many six-footers engaged in high-rise building (7)
- 20 Shut down before the end of August for the recess (6)
- 23 Fish — or maybe steak? (5)

Solution tomorrow
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z